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Will you kindly send me three bottles of your 'Koptica Cure' for  
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D. G. Davis." (Signed.)  
The price of each bottle is £1. 2d.  
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Ask your chemist for KOPTICA  
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# The People

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1889.

MILFORD LANE } STRAND.—No. 427.

THIRD EDITION.  
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE,  
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

**STANLEY AT ZANZIBAR.**

ZANZIBAR, December 11.—Mr. Nicol, in the name of the chairman and directors of the British India Steam Navigation Company, yesterday entertained Mr. H. M. Stanley, Colonel Euan Smith, the British consul-general, and seventy other guests at lunch on board the *Arrawatta*, inaugurating the new direct service between England and East Africa. The gathering was a great success. Colonel Euan Smith proposed the health of the Queen, and Mr. Nicol that of Mr. Stanley. Euan Pacha, Captain Casali, and the officers of the relief expedition. Mr. Stanley replied at some length, and Colonel Euan Smith then called for a toast to Major Wissmann and all the Germans, thanking them for their splendid reception of Mr. Stanley and their kindness to the British. The luncheon concluded with a toast to Sir William Mackinnon, chairman of the Emin Relief Committee, which was received with great cheering. Major Wissmann is indisposed, suffering from an attack of asthma.

**Message from the Queen.**

(TIMES' TELEGRAM.)

ZANZIBAR, December 11.—Mr. Stanley received yesterday the following message from the Queen:—"My thoughts are often with you and your brave followers, whose dangers and hardships are now at end. Once more I heartily congratulate all, including the survivors of the gallant Zanzibaris, who displayed such devotion and fortitude during your marvellous expedition. I trust that Emin Pacha progresses favourably."—V.R.I."

**The Corporation and the Explorer.**

At the Court of Common Council on Thursday, Mr. Morrison obtained leave of the court to introduce motion of which he had not given notice. It was that, on the return of Mr. H. M. Stanley to England, a reception and address be given to him, and that a dinner be provided at a cost not exceeding £1,000. He highly lauded the value and achievements of Stanley, the results of which would be certain to be of immense value to the City and to all industrial communities.—Alderman Sir W. Lawrence seconded the motion in highly eulogistic terms.—Mr. Williamson moved an amendment to drop the déjeuner, and as Mr. Stanley had already received the freedom of the City, he was invited to the City to receive an address of congratulation, and that the expense be limited to the sum of £250. "Oh! oh!" and laughter.—Mr. Malthouse seconded the amendment, which, on a division was defeated by a majority of 34 (against 60).—Mr. O. C. Morton next moved that Mr. Stanley should be entertained at an evening reception in the Guildhall Buildings, at an expense not exceeding £1,500, and that opportunity should be given to as many prominent citizens to be present as possible.—This was not seconded, and the motion of Mr. Morrison was agreed to.

As a reward for their faithful service the Emin Relief Committee have ordered a month's extra pay to be given to each of the Zanzibaris returning with Mr. H. M. Stanley. It is probable that most of the Soudanese and Zanzibaris who are now either at Zanzibar or Mombasa will enter the service of the Imperial British East Africa Company.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.**  
BERLIN, December 14.—Professor Leyden lectured yesterday at the Clinical Institution here, on influenza, from which he declared more than a third of the population of the city to be suffering. The professor said that the epidemic was, perhaps, to be traced to the same cause as the Dengue fever, prevailing in the east. The latest number of the *Clinical Weekly Journal* observes that the outbreak of the epidemic in Berlin can no longer be denied, but that it is difficult to ascertain how far it has spread.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.)

BOSTON, December 14.—Several cases of influenza have occurred here, and it is believed the epidemic which has been raging in Eastern Europe has reached America.

**ELECTRIC WIRES IN AMERICA.**

NEW YORK, December 14.—The city authorities of New York commenced this morning cutting down all defective electric lighting wires in consequence of the recent terrible accidents.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.)

**A FRENCH STANLEY.**

France claims to have a Stanley of her own in the person of Captain Trivier, who has just crossed Equatorial Africa from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, and got to Mozambique on the day on which Stanley reached Bagamoyo. This achievement has been communicated to the Geographical Society, which has telegraphed congratulations to the explorer, who only took ten months to accomplish his feat. He sailed from Bordeaux for Loango in the Atlantic in August, 1888, and started from the latter place at the beginning of the present year. His design was to catch up Mr. Stanley, and he thought he might perhaps fall in with Emin Pacha. The *Globe*, the paper of M. Lévertont, the Deputy, paid the expenses of his venturesome journey. M. Lévertont, by-the-way more than any one else, led M. Ferry, when the latter was Prime Minister, into the Colonial Policy, and stories in being the real author of the Tunis Expedition. Captain Trivier's route lay by Stanley Falls into the interior, and on by the great lakes to Tanganjika and Mozambique. No news was heard of him after he left Kasongo, on the Upper Congo, until eight days ago, when the following telegram was received:—"Arrived 4th December at Mozambique. Emin disappeared at end of September. —Trivier."—Emile Weissenbourg was Captain Trivier's servant.

The redecoration of the Strand Theatre is now completed. Messrs. Campbell and Smith having effected the renovation without hindrance to the run of the sparkling farcical comedy, "Our Flat," which reaches its 200th performance on Friday, the 20th inst.

Mrs. A. Myatt writes from 62, Ramsden-road, Balham, pointing out that in the divorce case, *Thirkettle v. Thirkettle*, reported last week, she was erroneously described as a lodgings-house keeper. She adds that had Mr. Justice Butt's summing up been fully reported, she would have been perfectly satisfied with his vindication of her character and position.

**PORTUGUESE AGGRESSION IN CENTRAL AFRICA.**

**Slaughtering the Natives.**

**British Flags Seized.**

A Zanzibar correspondent in a telegram despatched on Friday night, says news has just been received by steamer from Mozambique to the effect that the situation in the Shire highlands is serious. Major Serpa Pinto, having deceived Mr. Johnston by declaring peaceful intentions, returned to Mozambique for reinforcements after the latter's passage to the north. He then proceeded to the Makololo country, formed a large entrenched camp on the border, picked a quarrel with the Makololo and declared war, slaughtering hundreds with Gatling guns, and capturing two English flags, rumoured to have been lately presented by the British consul. The Makololo, thoroughly subdued by the Portuguese, accepted their domination, believing themselves abandoned by England. Major Serpa Pinto now announces publicly his intention of conquering the entire country up to Nyassa in the name of the Portuguese Government, and has written to all English residents at Blantyre, Zomba, and elsewhere, advising them to place themselves under Portuguese protection, otherwise he will not be answerable for the consequences. Consul Johnston is believed to be at Lukoma. Bishop Smythes has arrived.

**FEARFUL EXPLOSION ON A STEAMER.**

**Seventy-nine Persons Killed.**

Despatches received at Queenstown from Yokohama on Friday state that a terrible boiler explosion occurred on October 30th on board the Japanese passenger steamer *Sekiro*, trading between Foochow and Sharpake. Out of ninety-seven passengers about seventy-five lost their lives, being either scalded to death or drowned. Four of the crew were killed and twelve passengers and two members of the crew sustained shocking injuries.

**ANOTHER MIDNIGHT ROBBERY AND ASSAULT.**

At the Marylebone Police Court on Friday, John Bannister, 31, of Wellesley-street; Mary Ann Harrington, 29, of Wellesley-street; and Edward J. Grant, 24, were charged with stealing a watch and a gold chain, worth £10, the property of Arthur Simpson, living at Coburg-street, Gordon-square.—The evidence was that on the 21st, about twelve o'clock at night, the prosecutor went into the *Plasterers' Arms*, Seymour-street, Euston-square, to have some refreshment. The three prisoners were there, and they, one after the other, left the house. Shortly after the prosecutor left to go home, when he was rushed upon by the prisoners, who hustled him, tore open his coat, dragged his watch and chain out of his waistcoat, and then ran down Wellesley-street. He shouted "Police!" and shortly afterwards a constable came up. They went down the street, and looking into the *Hit* or *Miss Beerhouse*, they saw the prisoners Bannister and Harrington. Bannister said he had been in the house for two and a half hours, but the landlord said he had not been there more than ten minutes. A man named Evans, who had been talking to a policeman, and who had followed him to the scene, was standing near the female prisoner when she put her hand behind her and passed a portion of the prosecutor's chain and the locket attached to him, not knowing who he was, no doubt, and he gave it to the police. Bannister and Harrington were arrested on the spot, and Grant was taken into custody on Wednesday morning at his lodgings, Fitzroy Chambers. The watch had not been recovered.—A previous conviction was proved against the prisoner Grant, and Harrott (assistant-gaoler) said the warders at the prison had returned Bannister as a person who was known.—Mr. Cooke committed the prisoners to take their trial at the next Central Criminal Court.

**A FATHER'S APPLICATION.**

An unusual scene was enacted on Friday at the Portsmouth Police Court. A lad of 19, named Fry, was committed for trial on several charges of burglary, when his father applied to act as his substitute. In answer to questions, he said he was anxious to take his son's punishment. Upon this the son and a woman with whom he is stated to have been living fainted away, and the man strangled violently in a fit until removed. The man's application was, of course, refused.

**ALLEGED PERJURY BY AN EX-CONSTABLE.**

At the West London Police Court, before Mr. Flodden, the charge against Walter Whittemore, ex-police-constable of the X Division, for committing perjury against Thomas Murphy, who was alleged to have shot him on the 14th of December last year, was gone into.—Inspector Morgan stated that on the 15th of December he saw Murphy at Harrow-road Police Station, and told him the charge. He made a statement, in which he said that he slept on the previous night at a place at Notting Dale—he thought 46, St. Clement's-road, but he could point it out—that he went home at eight o'clock, and did not go out afterwards, his wife being with him, and they went to bed about half-past nine. Witness took him to St. Clement's-road, where he pointed out 46, and he there saw the witness Eliza George. He told her that Murphy was charged with a serious offence, involving penal servitude for life—shooting a policeman. She said she was quite sure he was not out between ten and twelve o'clock on the previous night. He told her to attend at the court on Monday morning, but he never saw her again, and he found that she had left the house. On Sunday he took Murphy to the infirmary, where he saw Whittemore, who made a statement substantially the same as in that court. Murphy said, "I am not guilty. I was at home and in bed after eight o'clock. You will get your reward for this."—After further evidence, the magistrate said there was a hopeless discord between the statements of Murphy and Eliza George, and he was quite sure no jury would convict on such evidence. He ordered the prisoner to be discharged.—Mr. Purcell then asked the magistrate to bind the prosecutor over under the Vexatious Indictments Act, and gave notice of his intention to apply to the Recorder to enlarge the recognisances until the next session, so as to have the depositions placed before the Public Prosecutor.

**ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.**

**WARRICKSHIRE (Nuneaton).**—Mr. J. W. Johns (G.) has retired from the candidature on the ground of ill-health.

**THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF TERRIBLE SCAFFOLD ACCIDENT. Seven Men Precipitated Seventy Feet.**

At the West London Police Court, on Friday, Martha Perry, a widow, residing in Aldine-street, Shepherd's Bush, was re-examined on the charge of causing the death of Clara Mabel White, an actress, known as Clara Mabel D'Oyley, by an illegal operation.—Dr. G. De C. Morris deposed that in September last he was acting for Dr. Woodford, of Goldhawk-road. About the 13th September he received a message, and went to 4, Aldine-road, where he saw the prisoner, who conducted him to a bedroom. He found a young woman, about 25 years of age, lying on the bed. She had given birth to a child of four or five months, and was going on very favourably. He saw no marks on the child. He had no conversation of importance with her. He saw her several times afterwards, but she continued to get worse and died. She was so much worse on the morning of the 16th, that he procured a nurse. He was in the house when she died. He heard that she was dying as he was going from the kitchen, and he went up to her again. She died from peritonitis and premature birth. Before he gave a certificate he saw the registrar and coroner's office. In answer to questions, the doctor said peritonitis after miscarriage pointed to a cause either from perforation by some instrument or blood poisoning. It was very doubtful whether a post mortem examination would have led to any result, otherwise he should have insisted upon one being performed. The prisoner told him that deceased was Mrs. Moore, that she knew nothing about her friends. She told him that some months back the deceased had been living with her. The prisoner paid him for his attendance on the deceased. She gave him

**A POSTAL ORDER.**

for one guinea on the day the deceased died, and he gave half the money to the nurse. The prisoner said that it was the only money belonging to the deceased, that it came that morning, and that it was all she (the prisoner) had received.—Cross-examined: He did not remember the prisoner suggesting that a second doctor should be called in. He suggested something of the kind. His memory was not very certain at this distance of time, as to what took place. He was certain as to what he had testified to. The prisoner told him that the deceased stated that she fell off a tramcar.—Mr. Newton inquired whether the witness had any suspicion from first to last, and he replied that he was very much concerned about the vomiting. It was on that ground that he sent for the nurse. The prisoner was very kind and considerate all the time the deceased was under his care. His object in obtaining a nurse was to improve the state of things.—The prisoner was further remanded in two sureties in £200 each, with twenty-four hours' notice to the police being required.

**A SUPPOSED BURGLAR.**

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Friday, George Morris, described as a general dealer, having no fixed abode, was charged on remand with burglariously breaking and entering the shop of Messrs. Sampson and Son, tailors, of Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, with intent to steal. As Constable Howard, 11 C, was on duty in Brook-street, shortly before two o'clock this morning, he heard a noise like the breaking of a window. Fancying that something was wrong he secured himself in a doorway and listened. Presently he saw the prisoner come over the railings of a house and hurriedly walk away. Witness rushed out of his hiding place, followed the man, and caught him near to Bond-street, and on asking him what he had been doing over the railings, the prisoner asked him what he meant, but gave no explanation, and was taken into custody. On returning to the house witness found that the area window had been forced open, and that an entrance had been effected into the shop of Messrs. Sampson above. The desks had been forced, and a back door leading into Davie Mews was open. It was thought that the prisoner was one of a gang of burglars who, when they were about to remove the "swag," were alarmed, and, with the exception of the prisoner, escaped by the rear. After the prisoner had been lodged in a cell, Inspector Kimber examined the shop, and found a formidable-looking jemmy, 2ft. long, and a dark lantern among the rolls of cloth. The prisoner said nothing, and was committed for trial.

**THE ALLEGED INTIMIDATION IN THE CITY.**

At the Guildhall Police Court on Friday, Mr. Claude Marks, Mr. Charles Wolfe, and Mr. James Marie appeared before the alderman to justify the charge of having threatened the recorder in connection with the alleged blackmailing of the recorder.—The chief clerk stated that the case by certiorari had been removed from the Old Bailey to the High Court, and that the bail had been fixed as under—Defendants themselves £200 each, and two sureties in £100, that they should appear on the 13th of January to take their trial, and to pay such costs as the court might order.

**OLD KENT-ROAD CONSOLIDATIVE CLUB.**

A very successful ladies' concert was given at this club on Wednesday last by Mr. Cundall, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Wolton. A miscellaneous programme had been arranged, including glee, recitations, a piano-forte solo by Miss Isabella Patten—excellently rendered—and performances on the banjo and sitar. Miss Carlotta Elliott was warmly applauded for her artistic vocalisation. Miss Bevan and Mr. Sweeny were also favourably received.—On the motion of Mr. J. Richards Kelly, M.P., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Cundall.

**SINGULAR ACTION AGAINST A SOLICITOR AND HIS CLERKS.**

In the Queen's Bench Division on Friday, a curious action was heard, in which Madame Scheyer and Mr. Bright, solicitors, sought to recover damages against Mr. Buchwell, a Brighton solicitor, his three clerks, and others. Madame Scheyer had some business with Mr. Buchwell, and afterwards delivered a series of lectures on legal methods. She alleged that Mr. Buchwell and the others disturbed her meetings, and brought an action to recover damages. Mr. Buchwell denied that he placed his two sons with the Knutafson, when that vessel was within a cable's length of the rocks at Roche's Point on Thursday night and in danger of going ashore during a southerly gale, the ship's hawser having parted as she was being towed to sea.

**SERVING A WARRANT AT SEA.**

An exciting scene was witnessed in Queenstown Harbour on Friday, when the deputy-marshal of the Cork Court of Admiralty, armed with an Admiralty warrant, proceeded in a tug in chase of a three-masted Norwegian schooner, named the *Knutafson*, with a cargo of divi divi from Rio Haché, which was leaving the harbour under full sail for Liverpool. The tug caught the vessel in the outer harbour, and the Admiralty official presented his warrant to Captain Querland, of the *Knutafson*, but the latter refused to bring his ship to, and proceeded on his voyage. The warrant was issued at the suit of the New Screw Tag Company (Limited), Queenstown, for £300 salvage services alleged to have been rendered by the company's tug *Mona* to the *Knutafson*, when that vessel was within a cable's length of the rocks at Roche's Point on Thursday night and in danger of going ashore during a southerly gale, the ship's hawser having parted as she was being towed to sea.

**A HEAVY FINE.**

John Thomas, a general dealer, who was

charged at the Thames Police Court on Friday with having in his possession 200 lbs. of leaf tobacco on which duty had not been paid, was fined £105.

**A FRIEND IN ENGLAND.**

"I have a friend in England, who sends me some of ASPINALL'S ENAMEL (real blue), and it looks perfectly lovely, with ribbon and lace to match. I have also painted a small box and can the same colour for the inside. And this ASPINALL'S ENAMEL is really valuable."

The public are warned against buying cheap paints that names and shapes call ENAMEL. Do not be satisfied with anything but the GENUINE "ASPINALL," whose name and mark are stamped on every tin.

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**GHASTLY DISCOVERY AT MIDDLESBROUGH.**

Human Remains from London.

A Middlesbrough correspondent telegraphing on Friday night says:—This afternoon some dock labourers at Middlesbrough made a discovery which is believed to indicate another of the series of fiendish crimes which have been perpetrated in the East End of London, and are attributed to "Jack the Ripper." While discharging ballast from the Swanside barge, Pleton Castle, which arrived in the Tees, from London, on the 21st November, a labourer came upon a woman's right hand, perfect with the exception of two joints of the little finger. A labourer had some time before come across a bag containing something which emitted a very disagreeable odour. He did not examine the contents of the bag at the time, but threw it into a lighter, and it was buried under a large amount of ballast. Information was given to the police and the ballast is being searched for the bag which it is expected will be found to contain other portions of a woman's body. The ballast was shipped at Millwall about a week before the arrival of the vessel in the Tees.

**DEATH OF MR. ROBERT B**

## THE LONDON STRIKES.-III.

(BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

Having ascertained the amount of the national income, I now turn to the question of the hours of labour. In England, Scotland, and Ireland average twelve per day, Sundays excluded. This is inclusive of overtime. The total number of these workers is about 7,000,000, of whom about 5,500,000 are in full work and 1,500,000 in total or partial employment. The men who are in work would be hard enough to have their hours shortened if they could do so without suffering a corresponding diminution in their wages. But that, under present circumstances, is impossible. So long as that 1,500,000 partly unemployed men are, so to say, standing outside the gates of the factory or workshop ready to take their places, the men feel that it would be useless and suicidal for them to strike. It may be said that the numerous strikes that we see going on around us disprove this statement, but, as a matter of fact, they do not. These strikes, numerous as they are, bear but an infinitesimal proportion to the vast industry of the country, and are exceptions to the rule. Moreover, they ought, by all the laws of the game, to have one and all failed utterly. For example, the dockers ought, by these laws, to have failed; for it is unquestionable that the places of the strikers could have been filled ten times over by men who would have been only too glad to accept the 5d. an hour if they had been permitted to do so. But they were not permitted. And why? Simply because Mr. John Burns and his colleagues set up another law, a law of their own, which said that the outsider should not take the place of the striker, and took care that that lawless decree was enforced. And how came it to pass that Mr. Burns and his colleagues were allowed to act in this high-handed manner? Simply because they put their case, the case of the dockers, in such a way before the public as to enlist the sympathies of the public on their side and against their opponents, the dock directors. The press also took the side of the dockers, and the Government and police authorities, anxious to win favour with the masses, took up an attitude of benevolent neutrality. During the six weeks that the struggle lasted the law of the strike committee was the only law known in the strike district, and that is how the battle was won. But it is as certain as anything can be that, if this extraordinary conjunction of favourable circumstances had not been created—if, in other words, the battle had been fought under the ordinary conditions—the dockers would have been utterly defeated. This fact is thoroughly understood by the working men themselves, and as they cannot expect in every strike the favouring conditions which saved the dockers from destruction, each body of workmen, in their several trades and districts, shrink from the dangerous enterprise.

But, while shrinking from an encounter with their employers, because of the dangers to themselves that an encounter would involve, the workmen are quite ready—in fact, most anxious—to take whatever action can with safety be taken to remove the element of danger from that encounter. And as that danger arises wholly from the existence of men out of work and anxious to get it, the workmen have come to the conclusion that the first thing to do, if they want to be in a position to fight their employers with a fair chance of success, is to find employment for these unemployed men. But how is that to be done? By an increased demand in our foreign markets? That, under the existing fiscal arrangements of the world, is not easily effected to such an extent as would appreciably relieve the glut in the English labour market. It is, moreover, a task for our merchants, and lies outside the immediate sphere of the workers. By an increased demand in our home markets? Partly in that way, say the workers, and partly by assigning to the now unemployed a proportionate share of the existing employment. Taking the latter point first, they say, reduce our present hours from twelve to eight per day, and give the four hours' labour from which we are relieved to our unemployed brethren. These last, being then in the receipt of wages, will purchase for themselves and families many things which they now cannot buy, and thus a great impetus will be given to our home markets. As to the method by which the shortening of the hours of labour is to be effected, there is still some divergence of opinion. Many of the oldest and most influential of the trade union officials are in favour of the question being left to the separate action of the unions, while the younger spirits, more go-ahead, are all for legislation. The chief objection put forward to the first-named method is that it does not diminish the dangers which now await the workers in an encounter with their employers, and which dangers the men are naturally most anxious to avoid. In their efforts to extort from their employers an eight hours' day by their own separate and independent exertions, union after union, it is said, would break itself into dust, exhaust its funds, and bring suffering and hardship upon its members. We can all understand and sympathise with an old trades union official, proud of his trade society and of the good work it has done, clinging to the belief that it will be equal to any task that may be assigned to it. But in this matter he appears to be over-sanguine. The work to be done seems far beyond the powers of his old-fashioned machine. The dockers' strike is, as I have explained, no precedent for him to go upon, and its success should not be allowed to kindle any illusions on the subject. Indeed, as a matter of fact, I may mention that all the leaders of that strike are unanimous and emphatic in support of an eight hours' bill. The advantages of the legislative method, on the other hand, are said by its advocates to be—firstly, that it will bring about the reform quicker than any other method could; secondly, that when brought about, the reform will be complete and general for all trades, not partial for one or two trades only; and, thirdly, that the legislative method ensures that no settlement shall be peaceful, rational, and just to all parties interested so far as these conditions can be ensured. In the House of Commons both sides will have a fair hearing, and whichever can make out the best case for itself will probably be able to command a majority in its favour. There will be no mobbing of willing workers on the one side, nor starvation on the other, to force a settlement or give a bias to the scales of justice. Right shall be done as between the two contending parties, the general community being itself the dispassionate and disinterested arbitrator.

We now come to the question, Can the workers demands be conceded? That is to say, can the demands now put forward by the strikers in London and the provinces for a general diminution in the hours of labour and, in some cases, for an increase of wages, be conceded consistently with justice to all parties and the general welfare of the country? And on that question I shall leave my readers to form their own judgments. My task is simply to state the facts of the problem and the arguments that are used on the one side and on the other. These facts are (1) The total annual income of the country; (2) the respective numbers of the producers and consumers; (3) the proportions in which that income is divided between producers and consumers; (4) the number of the workers; (5) the proportion of the unemployed to the employed workers; (6) the average hours of labour of the employed workers; and (7) the specific demands themselves. All these matters I have carefully set forth, so that my readers are now in a position to form their own conclusions on the whole question. There is, however, one other subject to be taken into consideration in connection with those I have enumerated, and it is a vital one. I mean the subject of foreign competition. However carefully we arrange our internal plans, however equitably we adjust the economic relations of our own producers and consumers, the whole industrial machine will continue out of gear, and the whole industrial population of England will continue in poverty, unless and until this question of foreign competition is taken in hand by our rulers and boldly grappled with. The objection to foreign competition is not

a mere national prejudice. It is based on the fact, not that the competition is foreign, but that it is unfair. Englishmen are not afraid of competition. They are rather disposed to court it, as witness all their national sports. Least of all, do they fear the competition of the foreigner when that competition is fair. But the foreign competition in trade to which England is at present subjected is not fair, and that is why we object to it. And that unfair competition of the foreigner affects, vitally affects, the position of the English workman, although, curiously enough, the majority of English workmen seem only to be awakening to the fact. This is the more strange, seeing that the very basis of English trade unions, their raison d'être, is self-protection. But the explanation of the anomaly is not difficult. It lies in the fact that the workmen have always looked upon the Liberal party as their friends, that our present one-sided fiscal arrangements are, for their own purposes approved and defended by the leading lights of that party, and that the innocent, confiding, British workman cannot bring himself to doubt either the wisdom or the disinterestedness of his friends of the Manchester school. There are now, however, signs that the portion of these illusions is ended, and that the English workman is beginning to find out one of the places long unsuspected, where his shoe pinches him. In my next week's article I shall return to this subject of foreign competition and show how it affects the question of conceding the demands of the workers, and, indeed, the whole position of the English working class.

## FEMALE BURGLAR.

Catherine Myers, 25, servant, who said she had no fixed abode, was charged before Mr. Haden Corser, at Dalston, with breaking into, on the 6th inst., the dwelling-house, No. 71, Marquess-road, Canonbury, and stealing therefrom an electro-plated cruet-stand, twelve electro-plated napkin-rings, a gold watch and chain, a pair of opera-glasses, and other articles, of the total value of £15, the property of Mr. Louis Cohen. The prosecutor said the prisoner had been in his employ as servant, but she only stayed a few days, then leaving on pretence that she was unable to agree with her fellow-servant. After she was gone, however, bottles of wine and brandy and cigars were missing, and on information being given to the police the prisoner was arrested and sentenced to twenty-one days' hard labour. On Sunday night last the house was securely fastened up, special attention being paid to the coal cellar, which communicated with the front garden, and in which the day before a female had been observed by one of the servants. On Monday morning, however, it was found that the house had been broken into by the breakfast parlour window, and the articles mentioned in the charge were missing.—Isabella Roberts, the servant who saw a woman in the garden, said that when they afterwards searched the garden they found a woman's bonnet. This bonnet was kept in the kitchen, and, after the burglary on Monday morning, it was missed. Subsequently she saw the prisoner leave an unoccupied house in Marquis Grove, wearing the bonnet. She pointed her out to Constable 292 J., and he arrested her.—Constable Gallagher, 276 N., said he searched this unoccupied house. It had, apparently, been made a residence by the prisoner. The opera-glasses and napkin-rings were found in one of the drawers, and the prisoner said she had pledged the cruet and watch and chain, but she did not know where.—Henry King, assistant to Messrs. Hills, pawnbrokers, of Gray's Inn-road, now produced the cruet and watch and chain, which he said the prisoner pledged for £2 10s. on Monday.—Detective-sergeant Drew said he saw the prisoner at the station on the 19th, and she said, "There was another girl with me. She has also been in Mr. Cohen's service, and knew more about the house than I did. It was she who broke open the cellar door with the iron bar."—Mr. Corser committed the accused to the Old Bailey for trial.

**A GOOD STORY OF HUMBOLDT.**  
A correspondent forwards the following highly amusing and hitherto unpublished anecdote of Alexander von Humboldt, the German traveller and savant. It was in 1829, during Humboldt's trip through Siberia for the purpose of making astronomical observations. He visited the town of Ischim, in the district of Tobolsk, and although provided with the highest recommendations, he excited the suspicion of the local prefect of police, who addressed the subjoined despatch to the governor-general:—"A few days ago there arrived here a German, of shortish stature, insignificant appearance, fussy, and bearing a letter of introduction from your excellency to me. I accordingly received him politely, but must say I find him suspicious and even dangerous. I disliked him from the first. He talks too much, and despises my hospitality. He pays no attention to the leading officials of the town, and associates with Poles and other political criminals. I take the liberty of informing your excellency that his intercourse with political criminals does not escape my vigilance. On one occasion he prodded with them to a hill overlooking the town. They took a box with them, and got out of it an instrument shaped like a long tube, which we all took for a gun. After fastening it to three feet they pointed it down on the town, and one after the other examined whether it was properly sighted. This was evidently a great danger for that town, which is built entirely of wood. It sent a detachment of troops with loaded rifles to watch the German on the hill. If the treacherous machinations of this man justify my suspicions, we shall be ready to give our lives for Tsar and Holy Russia. I send this despatch to your excellency by special messenger."

**A REMARKABLE CASE.**

At Lincoln Assizes, before Mr. Justice Wills, Joseph Turner, 42, shoemaker, was charged with the wilful murder of his son, Joseph M. Turner, at Alford, Lincolnshire, on October 30th.—The prisoner was living with his brother at Alford, and on the night of October 26th he had some angry words. The prisoner called up his son, nine years of age, who was in bed, and left the house, and that night father and son slept in a shed. Next day the brother tried unsuccessfully to effect reconciliation. At one o'clock on the morning of October 31st the prisoner knocked at his brother's door. His clothes were saturated with water and his face besprinkled with mud. He said he had walked into a pond, and that he had left the boy at his uncle's house. While the prisoner was still in bed, the brother received a letter in the prisoner's handwriting, in which it was stated that the bodies of himself and his son would be found in the brick pit at the bottom of the field. The dead body of the boy was found drowned in a disused brick pit.—The defence was that the prisoner was not at the time responsible for his actions.—The jury returned a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy on account of the depressed state of the prisoner's mind.—Sentence of death was passed.

## THE SITUATION IN BRAZIL.

The manager of the Banco Nacional do Brasil in London, communicating by telegram to his directors in Rio de Janeiro the unfavourable comments of the public press in this country concerning the possible instability of the situation in Brazil arising from the events of the 15th of November last, has received the following telegraphic reply:—"There is no reason for press comments. Complete tranquillity prevails. Entire confidence in Government and everything progressing well." And a further telegram states as regards the rate of exchange:—"All banks have adopted 27 1/2, as the official rate for drafts on bankers; commercial paper, 27 1/2d."

Clyde timber merchants report a very large consumption of timber. The quantity of pitch pine that is being used exceeds anything hitherto known. There is also a very extensive business in teak wood, and the great activity in the ship building and other industries of the district is accepted as a guarantee that the prosperity in the timber trade will be prolonged.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.  
Outbreak in West London.

Inquiries instituted in the neighbourhoods of Chiswick, Gunnersbury, and Turnham Green establish the fact that the influenza epidemic, though of a somewhatilder type, has shown itself in some districts of the West-end of London. That the disease, which is pronounced to be of a contagious character, has prevailed in various parts of London is to be found in the facts embodied in a statement by Dr. W. Gordon Horne, who says that during the last ten years, as the autumn approaches, the prevailing kind of illness has been a mild form of this very influenza of the Russian type. In his opinion, the symptoms have been increasing in severity during that period, and he has never seen them so acute as they have been during the past autumn. Very few families in Bedford Park and Chiswick have escaped the complaint.

## A SHOOTING A JUDGE.

Arnemann, the German dentist who attempted to murder Judge Bristow by shooting him with a revolver at the Great Northern Station, Nottingham, on November 19th, has been again brought before the local magistrates.—The solicitor for the prosecution stated that his honour was still in too unsatisfactory a condition to permit his attending to give evidence.—The house surgeon at the hospital where the judge remains explained that the patient is out of immediate danger, but risk to life still exists.

## A PLAGUE OF RATS.

East Lothian is at present suffering from a serious plague of rats. Sir David Baird, of Newbyth, has summoned a meeting, to be held in Haddington, to devise measures to deal with the vermin. Rats have been killed in hundreds without any apparent diminution of numbers. The potato, turnip, and other crops have been damaged and roadsides burrowed with holes.

## TAXATION OF OMNIBUSES.

The Attorney-general applied to the Lord Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mathew last week to fix a day to hear a case which involved a question in respect of the liability of omnibus proprietors to pay the hancency carriage-tax of two guineas. The question was of importance, and the tax having to be paid by January it was desirable that it should be decided during the present sittings.

## PENAL SERVITUDE FOR ARSON.

At Hereford Assizes last week, before Mr. Justice Stephen, John Sanders, aged 33 years, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for arson at Ledbury.—Samuel Bowe, aged 40, for a similar offence, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

## RAILWAY MEN'S DISPUTE.

The railway porters and signalmen at the Great Southern and Western Railway Station, Fermanagh, struck on Thursday, and left their employment in a body. In the evening a telegram saying that the strike was settled was received from Cork, and Mr. Berry, the station-master, having notified this to the men, they returned to work. No goods have been received in Fermanagh during the past two days.

## A REMARKABLE CRIMINAL.

A man, who gave the name of Edwin Eaton Fordham, but known to the police by several aliases, was charged at the Wolverhampton Stipendiary Court, with stealing 24s. from the house of a widow, where he had pretended to engage lodgings.—In reply to the question as to whether he objected to a remand, prisoner said, "Certainly not; I want to make a free confession of everything, but there isn't time now. It would take six hours to write it all down. My history will surprise you. The late Charles Peace was not in it compared with me. I have seen the inside of many of her Majesty's gaols, and have committed more robberies than any other criminal in England. I want my confession taken down in full, because there may be some men suffering for my crimes." From facts in possession of the police it is quite true that the prisoner has been several times convicted. One of his latest escapades was to break into a house at Cannock, where he stole a silver watch and other articles of jewellery. From Cannock he went to Burton, pledged the watch at a pawnbroker's, and then, by ill-luck, went to lodge at the house of a married policeman. After a few days the policeman suspected that his lodger answer the description of the man who was wanted for the robbery at Cannock, and having induced him to take a walk, which ended at the police station, and finding his suspicions correct, he locked the lodger up, and ultimately secured his conviction. Having served nine months' imprisonment for this offence, the prisoner was released from Stafford Gaol on Tuesday, and was immediately re-arrested on the present charge, on which he was now remanded for a week.

## AN AUCTIONEER'S CLERK SENT TO PENAL SERVITUDE.

At the London County Sessions on Thursday, William Henry Gibbs, clerk, surrendered to bail, to answer an indictment charging him with stealing several articles, the property of Mrs. Waller, and of Carlisle Mansions. Mr. Forrest, Fulton and Mr. Paul Taylor prosecuted; Mr. Keith Frits defended.—The prosecutor, who is a widow, formerly residing at Chester-terrace, Eaton-square, and in April last she gave instructions to dispose of the lease of the house. She put the matter in the hands of Mr. Freyberg, an auctioneer, and the prisoner, who was a clerk in that gentleman's employ, was sent to take an inventory of certain articles left in the house. Among other things left on the premises were some stair carpets, rugs, and matting which were not mentioned in the inventory, which the prosecutrix gave orders should be sold only to the incoming tenant, she being under the impression that they would realise a larger sum if disposed of in this way than if sold by auction. It was alleged that, without any authority from Mr. Freyberg or the prosecutrix, the prisoner on the 12th of August sold a few of the articles for 7s. 6d. to a Mrs. Ballard, and that in September he disposed of some rugs and carpet to a Mr. Hawkins, of Ebury-street, for 43 1/2s., he telling that gentleman he had received instructions to get rid of them. The prisoner shortly after went on his holiday, and when absent Mr. Freyberg wrote him, stating inconsequence of something which had come to his knowledge, in no way connected with this case, his services were no longer required.—Mr. Keith Frits was proceeding to cross-examine this witness with the view of showing that the question resolved itself into one of account between himself and the prisoner, when the learned chairman held that was no justification for disposing of the goods of another party. When the prosecutor said he had sold them for Mrs. Waller, and at the police station he stated that he had instructions from Mrs. Waller with Freyberg's knowledge, to sell the goods.—The defence was that the prisoner thoroughly believed he had a right to dispose of goods and credit Freyberg with the amount realised, which would be deducted from his account with that gentleman. The jury found the prisoner guilty.

The learned chairman held that was no justification for disposing of the goods of another party. When the prosecutor said he had sold them for Mrs. Waller, and at the police station he stated that he had instructions from Mrs. Waller with Freyberg's knowledge, to sell the goods.—The defence was that the prisoner thoroughly believed he had a right to dispose of goods and credit Freyberg with the amount realised, which would be deducted from his account with that gentleman.

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ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

## THE FIRM OF GIRDLESTONE. ROMANCE OF THE UNROMANTIC.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.  
AUTHOR OF "MICAH CLARKE," "A STUDY IN  
SCABEAT," ETC.

## CHAPTER XIV.

## AN ADDITION TO THE HOUSE.

There were rejoicings in Phillipine Gardens over Tom's engagement, for the two old people were both heartily fond of Kate—"our Kate," as they were wont proudly to call her. The physician shamed a little at first over the idea of keeping the matter a secret from Girdlestone. A little reflection served to show him, however, that there was nothing to be gained by informing him, while Kate's life, during the time that she was forced to remain under his roof, would be more tolerable as long as he was kept in ignorance of it. In the meanwhile, the lovers saw little of each other, and Tom was only consoled by the thought that every day which passed brought him nearer to the time when he could claim his prize without concealment or fear. He went about as happy and as light-hearted a man as any in London. His mother was delighted at his spirit, but his bluff old father was not so well satisfied. "Confound the lad!" he said to himself. "He is settling down to a life of idleness. It suits him too well. We must get him to choose one way or the other."

Accordingly, after breakfast one morning, the doctor asked his son to step with him into the library, where he lit his long cherry-wood pipe, as was his custom after every meal, and smoked for some time in silence. "You must do something to keep you from mischief, my boy," he said at last, brusquely.

"I'm ready for anything, dad," replied Tom, "but I don't quite see what I am fitted for."

"First of all, what do you think of this?" the doctor asked abruptly, handing a letter over to his son, who opened it, and read as follows:

"Dear sir,—It has come to my knowledge through my son that your boy has abandoned the study of medicine, and that you are still uncertain as to his future career. I have long had the intention of seeking a young man who might join in our business, and relieve my old shoulders of some of the burden. Ezra urges me to write, and propose that your son should become one of us. If he has any taste for business we shall be happy to advance his interest in every way. He would, of course, have to purchase a share in the concern, which would amount to seven thousand pounds, on which he would be paid interest at the rate of five per cent. By allowing this interest to accumulate, and investing also his share of the profits, he might in time absorb a large portion of the business. In case he joined us upon this footing we should have no objection to his name appearing as one of the firm. Should the idea command itself to you, I should be most happy to talk over details, and to explain to you the advantages which the firm can offer, at my office in Fenchurch-street, any day between ten and four."

"With kind regards to your family, and hoping that they enjoy the great blessing of health, I remain, sincerely yours,

JOHN GIRDLESTONE."

"What d'ye think of that?" the doctor asked when his son had finished reading it.

"I hardly know," said Tom. "I should like a little time to think it over."

"Seven thousand pounds is a good round sum. It is more than half the total capital which I have invested for you. On the other hand, I have heard those who ought to know say there is not a sounder or better managed concern in London. There's no time like the present, Tom. Get your hat, and we'll go down to Fenchurch-street and look into it."

While father and son were rattling along in a cab from Kensington to the City, the young man had time to turn the matter over in his mind. He wanted to be at work and why not take this up as well as anything else. It is true that he disliked what he had seen of both the Girdlestones, but, on the other hand, by becoming a member of the firm he would probably be thrown in the way of meeting the old merchant's ward. This last consideration decided the matter, and long before the cab had pulled up at the long and dirty passage which led to the offices of the great African firm the party principally interested had full made up his mind as to the course he should adopt.

They were duly ushered into the small sanctum adorned with the dissected skins, the maps, the charts, the lists of sailing, and the water-colour picture of the barque *Balinda*, where they were received by the head of the firm. With a charming personal modesty, tempered by a becoming pride in the great business which he had himself created, he discussed upon its transactions and its importance. He took down ledgers and flashed great rows of figures before the eyes of the good doctor, explaining, at the same time, how month after month their receipts increased and their capital grew. Then he spoke touchingly of his own ripe years, and of the quiet and seclusion which he looked forward to after his busy lifetime.

"With my young friend here," he said, patting Tom affectionately on the shoulder, "and my own boy, Ezra, both working together, there will be young blood and life in the concern. They'll bring the energy, and when they want advice they can come to the old man for it. I intend in a year or so, when the new arrangement works smoothly, to have a run over to Palestine. It may seem a weakness to you, but all my life I have hoped some day to stand upon that holy ground, and to look down on those scenes which we have all imagined to ourselves. Your son will start with a good position and a fair income, which he will probably double before he is five years older. The money invested by him is simply to ensure that he shall have a substantial interest in promoting the affairs of the firm." Thus the old man ran on, and when Tom and his father left the office with the sound of great sums of money, and huge profits, and heavy balances, and safe investments all jostling each other in their brains, they had both made up their minds as to the future.

Hence, in a couple of days there was a stir in the legal house of Jones, Morgan, and Co., with much rustling of parchment, and signing of names, and drinking of inferior sherry. The result of all which was that the firm of Girdlestone and Co. were seven thousand pounds the richer, and Thomas Dimsdale found himself a recognised member of a great commercial house, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.

"A good day's work, Tom," said the old doctor, as they left the lawyer's office together. "You have now taken an irrevocable step in life, my boy. The world is before you. You belong to a first-class firm and you have every chance. May you thrive and prosper."

"If I don't it won't be my fault," Tom answered with decision. "I shall work with my whole heart and soul."

"A good day's work, Ezra," the African merchant was remarking at that very moment in Fenchurch-street. "The firm is pinched again for working expenses. This will help," and he threw a little slip of green paper across the table to his son.

"It will help us for a time," Ezra said, gloomily glancing at the figures. "It was fortunate that I was able to put you on his track. It is only a drop in the ocean, however. Unless this diamond spec comes off, nothing can save us."

"But it shall come off," his father answered resolutely. He had succeeded in obtaining an agent who appeared to be almost as well fitted for the defensive works. If a question of importance arose at Fenchurch-street during the absence of the senior partner, what more natural than that Mr. Dimsdale should volunteer to walk round to Eccleston-square in order to acquaint him with his operations was to lie.

"I hope so," said Ezra. "We have neglected no precaution. Langworthy should be at Tobolsk

by this time. I saw that he had a bag of rough stones with him which would do well enough for his purpose."

"We have your money ready, too. I can rely upon rather over thirty thousand pounds. Our credit was good for that, but I did not wish to push it too far, for fear of setting tongues wagging."

"I am thinking of starting shortly in the mail boat Cyprian," said Ezra. "I should be at the diamond fields in little more than a month. I dare say Langworthy won't show any signs for some time yet, but I may as well be there as here. It will give me a little while to find my way about. You see, if the tidings and I were to come almost simultaneously, it might arouse suspicions. In the meantime, no one knows our little game."

"Except your friend, Clutterbuck."

A dark shadow passed over Ezra's handsome face, and his cruel lip tightened in a way which boded little good to the old soldier should he ever lie at his mercy.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## THE FIRST STEP.

It was a proud day for the ex-medical student when he first entered the counting-house of the African firm and realised that he was one of the governing powers in that busy establishment. Tom Dimsdale's mind was an intensely practical one, and although he had found the study of the abstract sciences an irksome matter, he was able to throw himself into business with uncommon energy and devotion. The clerks soon found that the sunburned, athletic-looking young man intended to be anything but a sleeping partner, and both they and old Gilray respected him accordingly.

The latter had at first been inclined to resent the new arrangement as far as his gentle descent could resent anything. Hitherto he had been the monarch of the counting-houses in the absence of the Girdlestones, but now a higher desk had been erected in a more central portion of the room, and this was for the accommodation of the new-comer. Gilray, after his thirty years of service, felt this usurpation of his rights very keenly; but there was such a simple kindness about the invader, and he was so grateful for any assistance in his new duties, that the old clerk's resentment soon melted away.

A little incident occurred which strengthened this kindly feeling. It chanced that some few days after Tom's first appearance in the office several of the clerks, who had not yet quite gauged what manner of man this young gentleman might be, took advantage of the absence of the Girdlestones to take a rise out of the manager. One of them, a great rawboned Scotchman, named McCalister, after one or two minor exhibitions of wit concluded by dropping a heavy ruler over the partition of the old man's desk in such a way that it crashed down upon his head as he sat stooping over his writing. Tom, who had been watching the proceedings with a baleful eye, sprang to his feet and made across the office at the offender. McCalister seemed inclined for a moment to brandish it out, but there was a dangerous sling about Tom's shoulders, and a flush of honest indignation upon his face. "I didn't mean to hurt him," said the Scotchman. "Don't hit me, sir!" cried the little manager. "Beg my pardon," said Tom with his teeth. McCalister stammered out some lame apology, and the matter was ended. It revealed the new partner, however, in an entirely novel light to the inmates of the counting-house. That under such circumstances a complaint should be carried to the senior was only natural, but that the junior should actually take the matter into his own hands and execute Lynch law then and there, was altogether a new phenomenon. From that day Tom acquired great ascendancy in the office, and Gilray became his devoted slave. This friendship with the old clerk proved to be very useful, for by means of his shrewd hints and patient teaching the newcomer gained a grasp of the business which he could not have attained by any other method.

Girdlestone called him into the office one day, and congratulated him upon the progress which he was making. "My dear young man," he said to him in his patriarchal way, "I am delighted to hear of the way in which you identify yourself with the interests of the firm. If at first you find work allotted to you which may appear to you to be rather menial, you must understand that that is simply due to our desire that you should master the whole business from its very foundations."

"There is nothing I desire better," said Tom.

"In addition to the routine of office work, and the superintendance of the clerks, I should wish you to have a thorough grasp of all the details of the shipping, and of the loading and unloading of our vessels, as well as of the storage of goods when landed. When any of our ships are in, I should wish you to go down to the docks and to overlook everything which is done."

Tom bowed and congratulated himself inwardly upon these new duties, which promised to be interesting.

"As you grow older," said the senior partner, "you will find it of inestimable value that you have had practical experience of what your subordinates have to do. My whole life has taught me that. When you are in doubt upon any subject you can ask Ezra for assistance and advice. He is a young man whom you might well take as an example, for he has great business capacity. When he has gone to Africa you can come to me if there is anything which you do not understand. John Girdlestone appeared to be a kindly and benevolent during this and other interviews, that Tom's heart warmed towards him, and he came to the conclusion that his father had judged the old merchant harshly. More than once, so impressed was he by his kindness, that he was on the point of disclosing to him his engagement to his ward, but on each occasion there arose within him a lively recollection of Kate's frightened face when he had suggested such a course, and he felt that without her consent he had no right to divulge the secret.

If the elder Girdlestone improved upon acquaintance it was exactly the reverse with his son Ezra. The dislike with which Tom had originally regarded him deepened as he came in closer contact, and appeared to be reciprocated by the other, so that they held but little intercourse together. Ezra had taken into his own charge all the financial part of the concern, and guarded it the more jealously when he realised that the new partner was so much less simple than he had expected. Thus, Tom had no opportunity of ascertaining for himself how the affairs of the firm stood, but believed implicitly, as did Gilray, that every outlay was bringing in a large and remunerative return. Very astonished would both of them have been had they realised that the working expenses were at present being paid entirely from their own capital until such time as the plot should ripen which was to restore the fortunes of the African company.

In one respect Tom Dimsdale was immeasurably the gainer by his connection with the firm, for without it is difficult to say how he could have found opportunities for breaking through the barrier which separated him from Kate. The surveillance of the merchant had become stricter of late, and all invitations from Mrs. Dimsdale or other friends who pitied the loneliness of his girl were repulsed by Girdlestone with the curt intimation that his ward's health was not such as to justify him in allowing her to incur any risk of catching a chill. She was practically a prisoner in the great stone cage in Eccleston-square, and even on her walks a warden in the shape of a footman was, as we have seen, told off to guard her. Whatever John Girdlestone's reasons may have been, he had evidently come to the conclusion that it was of the highest importance that she should be kept secluded.

As it was, Tom, thanks to his position as one of

the firm, was able occasionally, in spite of every precaution, to penetrate through the old man's defensive works. If a question of importance arose at Fenchurch-street during the absence of the senior partner, what more natural than that Mr. Dimsdale should volunteer to walk round to Eccleston-square in order to acquaint him with the fact. And if it happened that the gentleman

was not to be found there, how very natural that the young man should wait half an hour for him, and that Miss Harston should take the opportunity of a chat with an old friend? Precious, precious interviews those, the more so for their rarity. They brightened the dull routine of Kate's weary life and sent Tom back to the office full of spirit and hope. The days were at hand when the memory of them was to shine out like little rifts of light in the dark cloud of existence.

And now the time was coming when it was to be decided whether, by a last bold stroke, the credit of the House of Girdlestone was to be saved, or whether the attempt was to plunge them into deeper and more hopeless ruin. An macabre agent named Langworthy had, as already indicated, been despatched to Russia well primed with instructions as to what to do and how to do it.

He had been in the employ of an English corn merchant at Odessa, and had some knowledge of the Russian language which would be invaluable to him in his undertaking. In the character of an English gentleman of scientific tastes he was to establish himself in some convenient village among the Ural Mountains. There he was to remain some little time, so as to arouse confidence in the people before making his pretended discovery. He was then to carry his rough diamonds to Tobolsk, as the nearest large town, and to exhibit them there, backing up his assertion by the evidence of villagers who had seen him dig them up. The Girdlestones knew that that alone would be sufficient when telegraphed to England to produce a panic in the sensitive diamond market. Before any systematic inquiry could be made, Langworthy would have disappeared, and their little speculation would have come off. After that the sooner people realised that it was no hoax the better for the conspirators. In any case, there seemed to be no possibility that the origin of the rumour could be traced. Meanwhile, Ezra Girdlestone had secured his passage in the Cape mail steamer Cyprian. On the night that he left he sat up some time in the library at Eccleston-square talking over the matter for the last time with his father.

The old man was pale and nervous. The one weak point in his character was his affection for his son, an affection which he strove to hide under an austere manner, but which was none the less genuine. He had never before parted with him for any length of time, and he felt the wrench keenly.

As to Ezra, he was flushed and excited at the thought of the new scenes which lay before him and the daring speculation in which he was about to embark.

He flung himself into a chair and stretched his thick, muscular limbs out in front of him.

"I know as much about stones," he said eruditely, "as any man in London. I was pricing a bag of rough ones at Van Helmer's to-day, and he reckoned a good judge. He said that no expert could have done it better. Lord bless you, you or splinters, or cracked, or off colour, or spotted, or twin stones, I'm up to them all! I wasn't a pound out in the market value of any one of them."

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OUR OMNIBUS.  
THE M.P.

**Strongly opposed** as I am to transferring the control of the metropolitan police to the London County Council, my antipathism will never should Manchester afford better protection to working men than London. The control of the police at Cottonopolis rests in the hands of the municipality, and, so far, this power has been exercised with admirable energy to prevent the coercion of the men who have taken the places of the gas stokers on strike. One cannot but remember that the Home Office entirely failed to afford similar protection to the non-unionists who were engaged at the docks after the regular dockers struck.

There is a growing impression among Ministerialists that Mr. Matthews is not the square man in the square hole at the Home Office. His talents and accomplishments are, of course, indisputable, but there is too much elasticity in his backbone to suit the place he fills. Some suspect that this too accommodating disposition is due to priestly influence, but my idea is that it lies in the nature of the man. But that as it may, it may not be contradicted that all the most damaging mistakes of the present Government lie at the door of the Home Office.

Mr. Gladstone has chosen an odd name for the little chapel of ease he is building near Hawarden Church. He has christened it "St. Denio's," after some saint of generally unknown merit. Would that Mr. Gladstone himself had been more of a "Deny-all," in that case he might not have so readily granted Mr. Parnell's demand for Home Rule.

So, after all, it turns out that the Brazilian revolution was not brought about by "the unanimous voice of the people." Believing it to have that origin, Sir Wilfrid Lawson lately praised it up to the skies as another conquest for the democratic principle. He must have been much put out, therefore, on learning that the Brazilians at large had no part whatever in the deposition of Dom Pedro. It was brought about by a military conspiracy, the leaders of which belong exclusively to the Brazilian aristocracy.

The relatives of the famous Indian bandit, Tantia Bhel, who has just been hung for murder, are much disgusted, it is said, on finding that he has left no property behind him. They hated his deeds, no doubt, but had no objection to share the profits. A true Socialist was Tantia; he took from others for his own benefit, thus carrying out in a thoroughly practical way the sublime doctrine of the redistribution of property.

The question of the succession to the Separatist leadership still remains unsettled. Sir William Harcourt has the highest claims, and Mr. Gladstone is understood to recognise that he will bury individual as his political heir. But both the Parnellites and the Radicals much misdoubt Sir William's sincerity. It certainly lies open to question. One cannot forget how many times he has changed his opinions and principles to suit the circumstances of each hour. But he has, at all events, a stronger following than either Mr. Morley, Lord Rosebery, or Mr. Labouchere, his three most dangerous rivals, and if he can only keep tolerably straight until the vacancy occurs, he will be likely to fill it for a time.

Once more credulous people are whispering among themselves that Mr. Gladstone has fallen under Roman Catholic influence. There is not a word of truth in the report; his High Churchism has always had more or less of a Roman tinge, but beyond that he has no leanings towards the Vatican. It is said that Lord Ripon once sounded him on the subject in the course of a friendly conversation, but got such a rap over the knuckles as forbade a repetition of the "fishing" process.

It is very satisfactory to learn, as I do from authoritative sources, that the electoral arrangements of the Unionist party in the metropolis are now in good working order. There are still, however, a few constituencies where law has to be made up in organisations. Some local managers seem to imagine that little or nothing need be done between general elections. Their rule is to reserve their energies and their resources for the distant day of battle. It is a foolish and fatuous policy. Victory is to be organised during times of peace, not when war is imminent.

The coming union between a certain Separatist M.P. of acrid eloquence and the daughter of a plutocrat who has made his money by the sale of a popular condiment, is spoken of as the marriage of "Pepper and Mustard."

## OLD IZAAK.

At Maidenhead, on the 9th inst., the magistrates were occupied for several hours investigating the charge of assault brought against Mr. A. C. Hewitt, agent to Mrs. Smith, of The Fishery, Maidenhead, by James Andrews, a professional fisherman. It will be remembered that on November 26th, Andrews, accompanied by a patron, was fishing in Bray Reach, the exclusive right to fishing of which is claimed by Mrs. Smith, when Mr. Hewitt, with several others, went in punts to him and demanded his tackle. Upon Andrews refusing, a wrangle seems to have taken place, and ultimately Mr. Hewitt boarded Andrews's punt, struck him, and pushed him into the river, falling in with him. Evidence for the defence was to the effect that the first blow was struck by Andrews, and that the immersion was accidental. The magistrates, however, considered the case proved, and fined Mr. Hewitt £3 and costs, and bound him over to keep the peace for six months. A cross-summons against Andrews was dismissed, and Mr. Hewitt had to pay the costs.

I have received a circular from Mr. W. H. Brougham, secretary to the Thames Angling Preservation Society, in which he asks Thame anglers to kindly send him a postal order for half-a-crown towards the annual seasonal dinner to all the river-keepers, lock-keepers, fishermen who have assisted in watching, and the inspectors of police, in all about thirty-five in number. The attendance includes those employed by the Thames Conservancy and the T.A.P.S., and the cost of the dinner, with refreshments and railway fares, is about £20.

The snow which fell last week interfered for a few days with anglers, but on the return of more temperate weather the snow disappeared without causing any great amount of harm to the fishing. An angler fishing in the River Weyland, near Stamford, has taken six roach weighing together 14lb. 9oz. John Keen, jun., of Staines, has been getting some nice chub and roach, many of the latter 1lb. and 1lb. each. A few jack have been taken at Laleham, Chertsey, and Shepperton; a real good one has taken up his quarters at Dockett Point. In the tidal waters roach and dace were dead off the feed during the severe frost the early part of the present month, but with the milder temperature and capital condition of the water seem inclined to come on again; the best take this week was made by J. Spong, the bag going 16lb.

Mr. S. C. Harding read an exceedingly interesting paper at the usual weekly meeting of the Piscatorial Society, entitled "The World of Waters." The respected treasurer occupied the chair, and the members well attended. The Richmond Piscatorial held their first smoking concert this season on Wednesday, the 27th ult., under the management of Messrs. Perkins and Gaunt, who are to be congratulated on the success with which the artists selected by them went through the evening's entertainment. At the last general committee meeting of the Anglers' Association, the secretary was able to report that the Great Eastern Railway have consented to issue anglers' tickets from Waltham Abbey and Lea Bridge Stations.

"C. A. S." writes me:—

your valuable column, but I should like to know if you or your numerous readers could perhaps give me some information. I have just moved to the East-end of London to-day. I thought I would take a walk through Petticoat-lane. I presume it was market day with the Hebrews, for the lane was crowded with vendors of fresh water fish. At several stalls I saw about thirty large baskets of pike, perch, bream, and roach. On making inquiry I was informed that these fish were imported from various parts of Holland, which to all appearance seemed correct, as the price was very high. I took particular notice of the latter averaging from 1lb. to 3lb. each. I congratulated myself to know they were not taken from English waters, but on passing by other stalls I noticed several large tubs, &c., which contained some very fine pike, carp, and tench, alive; as well as a large quantity of small roach; without any exaggeration, a pike, on an average, cost 10s. 10d.

This striking industry has been informed that these fish were taken from the Thames, but further information I was refused. Should this be the work of Thames netmen I sincerely hope some of our esteemed friends will use their utmost influence in abolishing the use of nets advocated by you. I think "C.A.S." may set his mind at rest about the fish he saw alive, as the size of the pike, taken into consideration with the quantity of carp and tench, most conclusively points to these fish having been netted from a private lake or reservoir. The roach in all probability did come out of the Thames, and until a new by-law is passed by the Thames Conservancy to do away with the nets great harm will be done to the tidal fishery.

## PIPER PAN.

The triumvirate, consisting of Messrs. Sullivan, Gilbert, and D'Oyle Carte, have "struck" it in the new Sullivan-Gilbert opera, "The Gondoliers." Of all the ten operas they have jointly produced the last appears to me likely to prove the most successful. Its diverting from beginning to end, the absurd improbabilities of the plot are readily forgiven, seeing that they lead to a series of comic scenes which compel hearty laughter, and the drolleries invented by Mr. Gilbert are all the more welcome because they illustrate the French axiom: "It is always the unexpected that arrives." I recommend those of my readers who may be able to witness a performance of "The Gondoliers" to keep the "book of words" closed except when they wish to follow the vocal music. They will thus find double enjoyment in the dramatic action and the witty dialogue, because the element of surprise will be preserved. Those who read the libretto beforehand discount this enjoyment.

Let me also recommend my readers to look out for the numerous instances in which Sir Arthur Sullivan has enlivened the opera by orchestral drolleries, as unexpected and as comic as those of Mr. Gilbert. At the same time let them pay attention to the varied charms of the orchestra in connection with the vocal music. They will be forced to laugh at the dull use of the side-drum in the scene which introduces the Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro, their daughter, Casilda, and the drummer, Luiz, who constitute the entire "suite" of the penniless but haughty aristocrats, and will be startled into laughter by the sudden intrusion of a hornpipe tune later on, but if they listen attentively to the whole of the orchestration they will be well repaid.

It has been stated that Miss Decima Moore, who, as Casilda, made a successful first appearance on this occasion, is only 15 years old. I am informed that she is only 17 years old, and at the age of 16 won the Victoria scholarship at the Blackheath Conservatoire of Music. Her voice has not yet attained its full power, but is well produced, clear, penetrating, and sympathetic, and she seems destined to occupy a prominent place amongst our light sopranos.

The Lee Philharmonic Society on Tuesday last gave a meritorious performance of Handel's "Acis and Galatea." The tenor solos were capably sung by the new tenor, Mr. Harry Stubbs, of the Queen's private choir. I find his voice better and better every time I hear him, and his elocution is specially praiseworthy. The Galatea was Miss Jessie Palmer, who makes rapid progress. When I reached home, my cabman, who had been reading the posting bills while waiting for me, asked if I would kindly tell him what was "the meanin' of Ases and Galaysh."

Mr. Sims Reeves is unfortunately too unwell to fulfil all his December engagements, and is ordered to take complete rest. His illness, of course, will cause great disappointment to amateurs in various parts of the country, but must be more distressing to him than to them. The last time I spent an evening with him told me that his losses, owing to the delicacy of his vocal organs, amounted to nearly £100,000. I know that for many years his annual income exceeded £10,000. When I first knew him it was £200 per annum, and what a rich, lovely voice he then had!

Mr. Ward of Northmarston, sends some more of his interesting notes. He says that badgers are still present in tolerable plenty in some hills near that village, two being killed there one day last September by fox-hunters. Having observed the arrival and departure of the swallows for four years, my correspondent has found that they make their first appearance about the 16th or 17th of April and begin to leave at the end of October. Several remain till the middle of October, while one or two stragglers, of course, can be seen later. Thus, one was seen on the 31st of October and another as late as the 25th of November.

Having noticed what thick soft fur water rats, or voles, have, I trapped a good many of these pretty little rodents last autumn and have lately had the skins made up into a muff for my wife. I must confess that I was astonished to see how well they turned out, presenting a really very handsome appearance. People are much puzzled, I believe, to know what kind of fur it is, and much astonished when they hear. It is vastly superior to the fur of the common land rat, and looks as if it would wear well. But for their small size, water rats ought to be in great demand on account of their skins.

trapper, then, to pay a constant round of visits to his traps all the night long? I fear his chance of catching anything would be small if he did so. No; when the interests of animals interfere seriously with the interests of man, the animals must suffer.

If the great elephant at Olympia, which unwittingly killed its keeper the other day, had read newspaper reports of the occurrence, he would certainly have prosecuted their writers for defamation. Utterly astonished was I to see it stated that the huge pachyderm had set upon its unfortunate custodian of malice preposse and drove him to death by kneeling on him. From the first I refused to believe a single syllable of the tragic tale. Elephants are not built that way, their affection for their keepers is wonderful in its intensity. Even when "must"—mad—an elephant will not harm its guardian, although hostile to all other people. The Indian mahout often behaves cruelly enough to poor submissive levithan, but there is not, I believe, a single authenticated case of the elephantine victim turning on its human tyrant.

A correspondent asks me to name the last occasion on which "The Dead Heart" was produced, previous to the revival by Mr. Irving. I could not say for certain, for it may have been played at any time at one of the outlying theatres without attracting general attention. It is certain, however, that Webster appeared in it—elsewhere than at the Adelphi—some few years after its original production.

Southern Scotland has just been visited by

extraordinary large flights of woodcocks;

at Glen

rook a keeper shot twenty-eight brace in the

course of two or three hours.

It is a popular

tradition that the appearance of the bird in

unusual numbers at the beginning of winter portends very severe weather.

An ugly look out,

that, in conjunction with the threatened coal

famine in London.

A Midland bird lover urges parents to erect what he calls "bird tables" outside the windows of their sitting-rooms, in order to interest their children in the feathered community. Supposing that the window-sill be four feet from the ground you get a stoutish pole, five feet six inches in length, and embed it in the soil to the depth of eighteen inches, at a little distance from the window. Next, fasten on the top of the pole a piece of square or circular planking as a platform, ornamenting the edge with virgin cork. All being now in readiness, scatter crumbs or seeds on the platform, and also place on it a saucer full of water. The birds will soon discover the elysium so kindly provided for them, and your little ones will enjoy endless amusement in watching their merry games. I commend the happy idea to those whose houses would lend themselves to its realisation; mine would not, unfortunately, or I should certainly establish a "bird table" for my own enjoyment.

Mr. J. C. Gregory obliges us with another letter from Port Said. In most parts of the east the milk supply is dependent on the goats, which are driven through the streets in herds, the leader with bell, and are milked at the door of the customer. Their favourite food appears, Mr. Gregory tells us, to be paper. All the provision dealers use heavy coarse paper, placing a very large sheet on the scale, the paper coating them much less than the article they weigh on it, and, as it is customary in these parts to throw all the refuse in the streets, quantities of this used paper lie about and are eagerly devoured by the goats. The fact is, that the chief material used in the manufacture of the paper is straw, and it is, therefore, readily digested.

Charitable organisations make a great mistake in thinking in wording their appeals in such sentimental language. Here is one lying before me, which asks for a donation to a fund for supplying the necessities of certain "West-end robins," I gather from the context that poor children are meant. Why not have said so, then? To my way of thinking, a suffering child is an infinitely more touching and more deserving object than a suffering robin. There is no more pathetic spectacle on the face of God's earth than a poor little scrap of humanity tortured by the pangs of hunger.

The new Brazilian republic will, no doubt, require a fresh coat of arms. I would suggest a jaguar rampant spitting at a king. That would fairly typify Marshal Fonseca's attitude to Dom Pedro, and the jaguar being the national animal of Brazil, the design would have the proper patriotic colouring.

The Board of Trade returns for November are really splendid; by far the best that have yet appeared. Allowance has to be made, of course, for the fact that a big lump of export trade, which would have taken place in October but for the dockers' strike, was transferred to the following month. But, after making due deductions from the astonishing increases of exports and imports, no one can dispute that England is enjoying an exceptional measure of commercial prosperity. Will it last? Certainly not, unless capital and labour learn to pull together. If the present unnatural hostilities continue, it is as sure as anything can be that the foreigner will cut us out of external markets, if not in our own. To those who, like myself, scrupulously refrain from partisanship, the suicidal warfare between employers and employed seems to presage the downfall of England as the greatest commercial nation in the world.

Not at all too soon, judges and juries are hardening their hearts against journalistic traders in defamatory gossip. Every case of the sort that comes into court affords fresh proof of this whole-some reaction against the terrorism of that loathsome excrecence, "society journalism." It is a horrible thing that any man who objects to have himself or his family or his business held up to public odium should be liable to have every trifling peccadillo of his past life raked up against him, with whatever embellishments forensic genius can invent. There are few so perfect but that at one time or another they have done things which they bitterly regret, and it is on this feeling that the journalistic libeller trades.

Respecting the parrot which a correspondent reported last week to have laid an egg after fifteen years' captivity, "E. G." writes from Deptford to say that he has a parrot, always supposed to be a male one, which, in last July, laid no less than three eggs in six days. My correspondent wishes to know the species of the bird. From the description given it appears to be the roseate cockatoo (*Cacatua rosei-capilla*). This bird, though outwardly resembling a parrot, is really a cockatoo.

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THE ACTOR.

The matinée at Tool's on Thursday was rendered more interesting than usual by two circumstances—the return of Miss Camille Dubois to the stage (though, it may be, only for that afternoon), and the production of a new one-act piece, by Mr. F. W. Broughton. This was entitled "Fool's Mate," and showed how a child may, by strategy, outwit a man. The child in this instance was little Gracie Murielle, who played very prettily, being cleverly assisted by Messrs. Luigi Lablache and Mr. Bassett Roe. The piece is a little wordy here and there, but has elements of popularity.

They are enthusiastic people out at Sydenham. On Tuesday afternoon Miss Minnie Palmer appeared at the Crystal Palace in "My Sweetheart," and her performance evidently gave much pleasure. After the play was over I observed that a group made up of both sexes and all ages had ranged themselves on either side of the passage leading from the stage, with the evident intention of waiting for the star. Miss Palmer had to pass through them in order to get into the main part of the building, where she encountered yet another little crowd, on the same object intent. Such is public curiosity where well-known artists are concerned.

Amateur composers give me much annoyance. I have just seen in the list of deaths the name of one of these gentry who gave me an uncomfortable half-hour three years ago. He proposed to show me a MS. score of his own composition, but forgot to bring it when called upon. He played three of the principal solos, and all were hideous. I told him I could not spare any more time, and he answered, "I have kept to the last, the principal soprano aria. Pray let me play it to you," and without more ado played the most hideous of all his compositions. "There, sir," said he, with a triumphant air, "Mozart himself never composed such a melody as that!" "I am of your opinion," I replied; "I am sure that Mozart could not have composed such a melody."

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

I was sorry to see much nonsense talked last

week in some letters to a morning contemporary

about the trapping of rabbits.

These animals must be caught, not only for the sake of their flesh and fur, but also because of the damage they do. Let ultra-humanitarians think of the Australian rabbit plague. Of all modes of rabbit trapping it is acknowledged by experts that that which necessitates the use of the steel-trap or gin is best. If the use of this trap was to be abolished, not only would it cause an increase in the number of rabbits, and a diminution in those captured, but it would render the catching of vermin, such as stoats, weasels, rats, &c., much more difficult, and would injure the fur trade, or most small fur animals, as the mink, are caught in this manner. Then, again, the well-meaning but too sentimental people declare that the animals should not, at all events, be left in the traps all night. Is the

auspices of Lady Freakie, and has ever since had a large social connection—always a valuable thing for a manager (and for that matter, an actor) to have.

It was very good-natured of Mr. Frank Farren, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Andrew Lovey to add to their evening's labours by giving a little entertainment at the Brompton Hospital on Tuesday. I am told that the affair was very successful. My lady readers may like to know that in the Modus et Helen scene in "The Hunchback" Miss Filippi wore a Henrietta Maria dress specially designed for her by Mr. Godwin.

A correspondent asks me to name the last occasion on which "The Dead Heart" was produced, previous to the revival by Mr. Irving. I could not say for certain, for it may have been played at any time at one of the outlying theatres without attracting general attention. It is certain, however, that Webster appeared in it—elsewhere than at the Adelphi—some few years after its original production.

London bids fair to add the manufacture of cycles to other leading industries. I am aware, of course, that a few metropolitan makers have done business for some time

## CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From *Moonshine*.)

There appears to be some fog even among the Separatist papers as to the precise meaning of the Manchester speeches. But we have noticed a similar confusion in effect before when an elderly lady and gentleman have both persisted in speaking at once.

The latest lecturer upon hydrophobia wants to muzzle the cats as well as the dogs. Cats are a divided sort of blessing we all know; but when it comes to muzzle them they have no value left. It would evidently be better to do without them altogether. This could easily be managed if we set to work properly; we should only have to muzzle the mice.

A lady has recovered damages from a newspaper which had said that she was once a washerwoman. Tastes differ in these matters. If we were a lady, we should be rather proud to have been a washerwoman. But if any one accused us of having been a steam laundry, then we should be very angry indeed.

J. L. Sullivan, the pugilist, has settled down into horse breeding. We wish him success in his new career; it would be worth while to see him making a hit at last.

A Beauty Show is promised for Christmas. Why not hold it at the Cattle Show, and call it "Beauty and the Beast?"

A plain dress for ladies, so long as it is chic, is all the rage now. Advanced spinsters, however, will not like a dress which will make them look all their age.

(From *Punch*.)

THINGS ONE WOULD RATHER HAVE EXPRESSED DIFFERENTLY.—"If you please, sir, may I have an exeat from Monday till Wednesday, to attend the funeral of my great aunt?"—"Oh—a—of course you must go, but I confess, I wish it had been a nearer relative!"

A "FINANCIAL CURSE"—Visitor (to her friend, a Transatlantic cousin, who was trying on new costume): "A perfect fit, dear! Cousin! Ah—nothing to the 'fit' my husband will have when the bill comes in, dear—you bet!"

SOMEBODY'S DIARY.—Monday: Rather pleasant day. Inspected seventeen regiments of nigger infantry. Not quite up to the Tenth, but did fairly well. Coming home the horses frightened by the massed bands. Escaped with a shaking.

Tuesday: Very agreeable morning! Attended durbar of native princes. Didn't understand speeches, but clearly complimentary. Returning to tiffin, slipped down a precipice. Fell on my fest. Wednesday: Quite nice! Joined a game of polo. Lot of swarthy chieftains deeply interested in our proceedings. Illuminations. Horse shot at fireworks. Dismounted unexpectedly. Flustered, but up again. Thursday: A real good time. Went out tiger-shooting. Found myself under man-eater. Equerry shot him. So nothing more serious than a tumble. Friday: Jolly fun! Opened new bridge across river (forget name, but something ending, I think, in "pore"), and called it Albert Victor. Just before dinner, slipped into the water. Fished up all right. Saturday: Went to see some elephants tied up. One fierce old Jumbo charged me, and I had to jump about as if I were dancing the polka! Hot work, but all right in the end. Looking forward to next week's "novelties" with pleased curiosity. One consolation—lots of good subjects for the illustrated papers.

THE LORD MAYOR WILL OBLIGE AGAIN, GENTLEMEN!—We have heard of a dancing Chancellor, but a lyrical Lord Mayor is undoubtedly a novelty. We are glad to hear that his lordship's brave example is likely to be followed. It is whispered the town clerk is an excellent tenor that the singing sheriffs are admirable, that several rare alto have been discovered among the aldermen, that the common sergeant is good at a comic song, and that a large number of carolling common councilmen have tendered their services. Sir Arthur Sullivan is, it is said, hard at work upon a "Corporation Cantata," which will soothe the savage breasts of civic malcontents, and help to promote harmony during the musical mayorality.

(From *Judy*.)

"NOT" A POETICAL FICTION.—Mabel: Are these the last verses of your new poem, dear?—Alfred: Yes, pet. I've just knocked 'em off. I'm afraid they're very sorry stuff.—Mabel (after reading them): Oh, I don't know; they read just as good as the first, dear.

THINGS *JUDY*'D LIKE TO KNOW.—Whether the brothers Charles and Augustus Harris ought not on account of their connection with pantomime, to be made members of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers? Whether the King's Arms would not be an appropriate designation for one of the luns of Court?

PICKING LOCKS.—Rusty cuss—we mean "Rusticus"—writing to a contemporary, complains of the rage for yellow hair, and says it isn't natural. It would be interesting to know what of the present feminine fashions and foibles are natural. He speaks not of corsets, pads, wigs, rouge, bustles, furbelows, or high heels, yet beauty is to-day arrayed in all this mysterious arrangement of shams, and we think her perfectly chic. Surely it matters not whether she dyes her locks or locks her dyes in a secret cupboard, for the sires of the classics, Venus, Circe, Daphne, Helen, and dozens more all had golden hair, and the present generation of Eve's daughters try to imitate them—though perhaps more for evil than for good.

THE LEGAL ATMOSPHERE.—The atmosphere of the Law Courts, or, as we might term it, the legal air, has sadly upset the equanimity of the appeal judges, and they have, in consequence, made a strong appeal against it. Lord Justice Fry went so far as to say that he would like to break the windows of the court, thus showing that even a judge can appreciate "trifles light as air." The grievance, having been well aired, should be vented forthwith.

HARD TACK!—At a vegetarian restaurant a customer who had ordered "cauliflower au gratin," found in the midst of it a large tick. Calling a waitress, he inquired, "Is this a part of the cauliflower?" "No," she replied, "it's a part of the grating."

LIGHT AND FESTIVE.—Electricity seems a little unsuitable for America according to results—or is it the method of applying it which is at fault? And yet the country seems very much on fire with it, too.

"The hands are out of employment," as the man said when his watch stopped.

"The board of trade," said the shopkeeper, when he looked at his signboard.

(From *Fun*.)

FAVARIATION.—Percy: I say, Mabel, what's six seven?—Mabel: Now, Percy, you know mamma does not allow me to speak with my mouth full.

GIVING RHEUM TO FANCY.—Ethel (with airy ingenueness): I say, Maud, does wearing those capes make you feel, as well as look, like a real driver?—Maud (with glowing conviction): Capable of competing with a driving wind—and beating it.

OH, IN DEED.—What is the difference between a solicitor and a barrister?—Well, one is a man of deeds and not words, while the other is a man of words and not deeds.

Jones must have decidedly enjoyed himself at the "Freemason's" the other night. People as a rule don't mistake a red pillar-box for a sentry at St. James's, and sing out, "A friend." And people don't afterwards grumble that that particular sentry has knocked them down with cruel violence on to the curbstone. "Our pleasant vices are the whips that scourge us." And really the County Council ought to have the pavement in future bordered with something softer than granite.

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## SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From *The World*.)

Engel's "Darling Mine." Is it a copper or a coal mine? No. It's a gold mine—for the singer. No, you cannot catch fish with "marriage-lines," but many men are caught with them.

(From *Funny Folks*.)

GOOD TIP.—The waiters, it is understood, are at last to have a special kind of uniform. This is good news indeed. What the precise character of that uniform is to be we are not as yet told. However, let us rest awhile and be thankful. The waiters have had long to endure the attendant miseries of being, at times, mistaken for the guests, and vice versa; but all such possibilities will be put an end to by the new order of things when finally this is brought about. Verily, we are on the eve of witnessing a fulfilment of the good old proverb: "All things come to him who waits."

A lady has recovered damages from a newspaper which had said that she was once a washerwoman. Tastes differ in these matters. If we were a lady, we should be rather proud to have been a washerwoman. But if any one accused us of having been a steam laundry, then we should be very angry indeed.

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BUILDING NOTE.—The School for Scandal: The school board.

MUSICAL NOTE.—A Bar's Best: An empty tavern. Servants' Grat: Trouble—Not being able to get the fire to light.

ADVERTISEMENT MEM.—The real "Net of Health": The lawn-tennis net.

THE VERY LATEST DOGE.—The principal character in Gilbert and Sullivan's new Venetian opera at the Savoy.

AN ANTI-HORTICULTURAL NOTE.—Window plants: "Tricky tradesmen's decoy goods."

(From *Truth*.)

I hear that, besides going to Italy in March, the Queen will probably pay a visit to Germany at Whitsuntide, in order that she may be the guest of the Empress Frederick at Cronburg in the Taunus, and her Majesty would afterwards be entertained by the Emperor William at Potsdam, and would attend the opening of the magnificent mausoleum which is being built there for the reception of the coffin of the Emperor Frederick, which is to be transferred to it on June 15th, the second anniversary of his death. The interior is being superbly decorated, and it is to be surrounded by two cupolas, inlaid with Venetian mosaics.

She was very beautiful, and as she carelessly placed her shapely arm upon the velvet cushion, she knocked a pair of opera-glasses off the edge of the box, and they fell upon the bald head of an young man. Just before dinner, slipped into the water. Fished up all right. When the G.O.M. entered, a feeble-gilded youth exclaimed, "Hallo, old bald-head!" The reply was instantaneous and crushing. "That is where the difference exists between us, young man," answered Ali: "I am bald outside, you are bald inside."

There is no truth whatever in the statement that the state coach is to be prepared for the Queen's use on the occasion of the opening of Parliament. It is not by any means settled that the Queen will open Parliament in person, and if she does so the ceremony will be "semi-state," and her Majesty will drive from Buckingham Palace to Westminster in an ordinary carriage.

I hear that the abdication of King George of Greece will take place in the spring, and his eldest son, the Duke of Sparta, will reign in his stead. King George intends to reside principally in Denmark, but no doubt he will pay frequent visits to his relatives in England and Russia, with all of whom he is a great favourite.

I hear that Mr. Gladstone is writing an article on Mr. Motley and his works, which will appear in an American review, and which is to contain some very interesting personal reminiscences of the famous historian.

It is perfectly ridiculous and nonsensical for the police authorities to be running about prohibiting the Christmas raffles for turkeys, joints of beef, geese, and cakes, which are so popular and also so harmless.

That Stanley is a man of vast energy, great courage, and undaunted perseverance, I do not for a moment question. So were Cortez and Pizarro. But I very much doubt whether the marches of Stanley through Africa have benefited humanity in general, or African human beings in particular. Geographically has he discovered a new pond, and seen a new mountain? Cui bono? A pond is a depression, a mountain is an elevation, and whether there are more or less depressions and elevations in Africa than we heretofore supposed is an exceedingly unimportant matter. He has brought back Emin and a great number of the people who were with Emin. A great number of Emin's people died during the process of bringing them back, whilst Emin himself, so soon as he was brought back, walked through a window and injured his skull. During Stanley's marches, many Africans were laid hold of and made to carry burdens, with the result that they died of fatigue; many men (dwarfs and others) who objected to his traversing their territories were shot, and many of their villages were burnt. Civilisation has not been presented to the inhabitants of Central Africa in a very alluring aspect, and they are not likely to enslave each other or to eat each other less in consequence of their glimpse of it. One cannot help asking why this waste of energy, why all this shooting and burning, why the Africans cannot have been left alone?

(A CITY POLYTECHNIC.

The scheme for the establishment of the City Polytechnic has just been issued by the Charity Commissioners. Together with the City of London College and the Birkbeck Institute, the scheme, says the *City Press*, embraces the Polytechnic Institute, a technical school which is to be founded in Clerkenwell, on a plot of land granted for the purpose by the Marquis of Northampton. Members of any one of the institutes are to be considered members of the Polytechnic, and they are to be entitled to all the benefits enjoyed by the members of each of the three institutes. Regarding the aims and objects of the three institutes, the scheme provides that the educational and recreative movements now in force at the Birkbeck and the City of London College shall be continued, and that at the proposed Northampton Institute there shall be technical classes, together with recreative facilities and educational classes. The Northampton Institute is to be under the management of fifteen governors, who in the first instance will have to erect on a site granted by the Marquis of Northampton the buildings required for a hall, a swimming bath, a gymnasium, and a workshop. The funds out of which the cost will be defrayed are as follow, viz., the sum of £2,100 Consols to be appropriated for the purpose in the general scheme of the commissioners; the sum of £15,000 out of the £25,000, also mentioned in the scheme. Provision is also made for the extension of some future date of the institute. The income of the institute is to consist of £2,000, payable by the Skinner's Company, as much of the income of Kitchen's charity as by the general scheme is directed to be devoted to the purpose, and the sum of £3,330, part of the annual sum of £25,000, payable by the central governing body under the central scheme. The Capital of the Birkbeck Institute and the City of London College is to consist of the present buildings, together with sum sufficient to extinguish the existing mortgage debt. The income of each institute will be £21,000, payable under the general scheme. The institutes are to be open to the two sexes, but it is directed that arrangements shall be made in order that separate accommodation may be provided for each sex. Relative to the letting of the halls, it is enjoined that, subject to the approval of the governing body, they may be used gratuitously or "for a consideration" for meetings, &c., not "political, denominational, or sectarian."

(MRS. BEECHER STOWE INSANE.

Poor Mrs. Beecher Stowe, the authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" (says the New York correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*), has become hopelessly insane. Only a few days ago she escaped from her seer, and was found wandering about the streets of Hartford, Connecticut, with her hair dishevelled, her shawl dragging on the ground, and a crowd of roughs and boys jeering and hooting her as they followed. The poor white-haired old lady smiled and talked to herself as she tottered weakly along, murmuring to herself.

"Only a little way further." Fortunately, a gentleman who had known her in brighter years happened to come along, and with some difficulty got her away from the crowd and back to her residence. She is perfectly harmless, and has hitherto been permitted to wander about the house without restraint. Most of her time is spent in crooning old church hymns which were popular fifty years ago.

JONES must have decidedly enjoyed himself at the "Freemason's" the other night. People as a rule don't mistake a red pillar-box for a sentry at St. James's, and sing out, "A friend." And people don't afterwards grumble that that particular sentry has knocked them down with cruel violence on to the curbstone. "Our pleasant vices are the whips that scourge us." And really the County Council ought to have the pavement in future bordered with something softer than granite.

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## THE GARDEN.

(From *The World*.)

The great depression of spirits from which the Prince of Wales is at present suffering did not escape the notice of his visitors last week. He talked constantly of his failing health, and although he battled bravely against increasing weakness, it is impossible to conceal the fact that he is an entirely different man from what he was twelve months since.

The House of Commons will next session be put to a severe test. Its members will be invited by one of the enthusiastic supporters of local option to vote that the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of the House should be forbidden, and the motion will be supported on this ground among others—that one or two honourable gentlemen are too easily affected by the attractions of the bar in the lobby. This, of course, is the application of the principle of local option within the House itself. That principle is that the majority has the right to deprive the minority of the privilege of drinking intoxicating liquors within a given place or area, and there is no reason why it should not be carried out at Westminster. I suspect, however, that this self-denying resolution will find very few supporters, even among the Radicals, most of whom like their liquor as well as any old Tory in the House.

I hear that Lord Randolph Churchill is disposed to deal with the School Board in the same way that he did with the Board of Works, and to ask for a royal commission to investigate its administration. If not as corrupt, the School Board has been as careless and incompetent as the predecessor of the County Council; and it is desirable that its whole conduct should be reviewed by a competent authority. A select committee will perhaps do as well as a royal commission, as up to the present no charge of personal corruption has been made.

Meteorological Mem.—A weather "Profit": That made on barometers.

What's the difference between the condemned school board buildings and a cockney's unsuccessful effort at oratory?—Why, one's pronounced failure and the other's a mispronounced one—see?

Building Note—The School for Scandal: The school board.

Musical Note—A Bar's Best: An empty tavern. Servants' Grat: Trouble—Not being able to get the fire to light.

Advertisement Mem.—The real "Net of Health": The lawn-tennis net.

The Very Latest Doge.—The principal character in Gilbert and Sullivan's new Venetian opera at the Savoy.

An Anti-Horticultural Note—Window plants: "Tricky tradesmen's decoy goods."

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Mr. Parnell's promised appearance at Notting-ham was due to the urgent appeals of the Liberal leaders. He has been informed that his silence is misleading, and is creating among the English people the impression that the enthusiasm of the Irish party is declining.

Securing Plants after Frost.

As soon as the surface of the ground is dry enough to place a foot on after a spell of frosty weather, look round all the beds of recently planted carnations, pinks, pansies, &c., and press the soil round the stems to fasten the young plants again in the ground. The root has great lifting power, and on examination many plants will be found to be loose in the ground through its action. After the plants have been properly fastened, run the Dutch hoe through the surface of the soil. This is a better tool for the work than the rake, which leaves the soil too close and compact. I was asked the other day what was meant by the term.

## TWO BROTHERS CHARGED WITH MURDER.

At the Leeds Assizes on Thursday, two brothers, named Michael and James Broderick, labourers, were charged with the murder of Emanuel Sugden, a hawker, in a lodging-house at Bradford, by kicking and beating him.—The jury found Michael guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. James was discharged.

## MR. W. H. SMITH'S OPINION

OF HARNESS' ELECTROPATHIC BELT

AND TREATMENT.

HE writes as follows:—"Dear Sir.—In May last I commenced to wear one of your Electropathic Belts for a disorder

## THE THEATRES.

**THE OUTLYING THEATRES.**  
The revivals, &c., announced for next week are "After Long Years" at the Pavilion, "East Lynne" at the Standard, and "The Grip of Iron" at the Marylebone. On Monday the usual annual "Festival" will take place at the Britannia, for the benefit of Mrs. Lane. The following is a list of the forthcoming pantomimes, with the dates of their production:—*Surrey*, "Whittington and his Cat," Christmas Eve; *Grand*, "Aladdin," Boxing Day; *Marylebone*, "Aladdin," Boxing Day; *Britannia*, "The Bold, Bad Baron" &c., Boxing Day; *Standard*, "Sinbad," Boxing Day; *Elephant and Castle*, "Cinderella," Christmas Eve; *Sanger's*, "Lady Godiva," Boxing Day; *Pavilion*, "Whittington and His Cat," Boxing Day.

## SOUTH LONDON PALACE.

At this popular south side resort, so ably managed by Mr. Fred Law, there is an excellent company under engagement just now. A good deal of interest centred on Monday in the first appearance upon the music hall stage of Miss Kate Arnold. The audience received her with much enthusiasm, and the lady showed that, in addition to personal graces, she possesses a voice of considerable range and purity. Mr. Harry Lynn and daughters continue to give their impressive sketch "The Stolen Child"; and the volatile comedy sketches of Sweeney and Ryland, coupled with the comic sketch, "A Seaside Holiday," in which Elsie Phyllis, Harry White, and company appear, keep everyone in the merriment of moods. The sensational element is supplied by the Flying Dillons, and as an illustration of what can be done in training animals, Professor Matthews's troupe of performing goats are well worth seeing. Among others under engagement are Pavillo and Rosillo, Mr. Arthur Wells, tenor; Mr. Egerton, topical vocalist; the Sisters Grant, duettists and dancers; Miss Maude Ross, Mr. W. Mitcham, and May and Laverne. For the forthcoming week a special attraction has been provided by the engagement of Peter Jackson to box with Jim Young.

## COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL.

The annual exhibition of the Smithfield Club brings an enormous throng of visitors into Islington, and Mr. Herbert Sprake's hall being recognised as one of the chief places of amusement in this district, it is not surprising that it has been well patronised during the past week. As is customary at this hall upon these occasions, a special entertainment was produced, and both Mr. Sprake and Mr. Barnes are to be congratulated upon the successful result that has attended their efforts. The country visitors have been greatly amused with the sketch essayed by the Mannons, entitled "Uncle Yank." This is a pantomimic farce, having for its purpose the playing of practical jokes upon an unsuspecting uncle paying a visit to his niece, with a view to inducing him to shorten his stay. The spirited manner in which the company enact this sketch is in every way commendable, the usual items being especially praiseworthy. Mr. Charles Coborn's contributions include, besides a well-known skit on the French vocalist, a couple of new songs, one of which, "English as She Is Spoken," was well received. Mr. Frank Travis, a ventriloquist who enjoys considerable popularity among music hall audiences, contributes a capital entertainment. Mr. Herbert Campbell will soon vacate the variety stage for a short time, a fact which gives his songs just now greater interest. They include the burlesque of the so-called "descriptive" ballad, a humorous parody on "Love's Own Sweet Song," and a laughable fictitious essay. Mr. Henri Clark delivers entertaining anecdotes of an usher's life in court, Miss Maude Hazell sings spirited serio-comic songs, Mr. P. Pelham gives off highly amusing comic verses, Mr. Matthews puts a troupe of well-trained goats through their facings, and various other branches of the music hall art are represented by Misses L. Fenton, J. Kent, the Sisters Cavendish, and the Sisters Lloyd.

A license has been unanimously granted by the Penge justices to Mr. Henshaw Russell, manager of the Crystal Palace, permitting children to play in the forthcoming Palace pantomime. One of the magistrates remarked that they granted the application with very great pleasure, feeling perfectly satisfied that the little ones would be thoroughly well cared for. This decision will be gall and wormwood to Mrs. Fawcett.—The battle of the pantomimes this Christmas will be fought out hard between the rival houses—as organised by the two Harms—Her Majesty's, now surnamed the "Premier Theatre," by Brother Charles, and Drury Lane, surnamed the "National Theatre," by Brother Augustus. The main struggle for superiority will lie between the rival processions of Shakespearean characters, an artistic contest which bids fair to attract playgoers to both pantomimes.—The shortest run on record of a new play was that of "The Spy" at the Novelty—two nights—for which the manager, Mr. Turner, paid a full quarter's rent in advance, with closed doors after the second performance.—The funny old Strand burlesque, "The Field of the Cloth of Gold," written up to date, is to be revived for Christmas at the Avenue. Miss Kate Vaughan was to have played in it, but ill-health compels this graceful actress under a medical veto to refrain.—Yet another harrowing accident through panic in a theatre—happily not British—by which a number of persons are killed and injured.—A new version of "Guy Blas and the Blasé Rôle," with fresh songs and dances, is in preparation at the Gaiety for Yuletide.—Miss Florence St. John, happily restored to health after her dangerous illness, started for New York to rejoin the Gaiety travelling company on Friday.—"The Tempest" is the play rumour assigns for revival by Miss Mary Anderson on her return to the stage, and Ariel, not Miranda, is said to be the character the fair American elects herself to play. Another report gives out that the lady will produce "Henry VIII," and enact the divorced Queen Katherine.—The hundredth representation of "A Man's Shadow" at the Haymarket will be given on Monday.—There is a talk of Miss Agnes Huntington having a theatre built for her; and stage gossip also gives out that another new playhouse is to be erected hard by Coventry-street, for the performance of light comedy and travesty.—The success of "The Bungalow" at Toole's, has induced Mr. Horner to take the theatre during the whole of the time its genial master will be away in Australia.—During the month of November twenty new plays were produced in London and eighteen in the provinces, against eleven produced in Paris during the same period.—Owing to the indisposition of Mr. J. L. Shine, his part of the Cockney cabman, in "London Day by Day," has been played by Mr. Wilfred E. Shine, who proved himself an admirable understudy. Mr. Wilfred Shine has been engaged for the important part of Abanazar, in the forthcoming pantomime of "Aladdin," at the Grand Theatre, Islington.—Under the guidance of Mr. Gloster Armstrong, the popular comedian, Mr. Charles Collette, has recently been journeying quite far afield in order to give his well-known entertainment, "Collette at Home." One day he went as far as Bath, returning in time to play his part at the Haymarket Theatre at night.—The success of "Paul Jones" at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, continues unabated, there being crowded audiences nightly.

Mr. George Lewis is about to take a well-earned holiday. Having set all his affairs in order, including the interesting case of Lord Euston, he is going to Monte Carlo, to spend Christmas within view of the Mediterranean. Another successful hard worker who is going to make holiday is Mr. Gilbert. He, accompanied by Mrs. Gilbert, sets out next week for India, returning with the sunburn in early spring.

## BUTCHERY IN FORMOSA.

**Chinese Troops Annihilated.**  
News of serious disturbances among the aboriginal tribes of Formosa comes by the last mail from China. A short time since these savages almost annihilated a body of 400 Chinese troops, under the command of a kinsman of the governor. Subsequently the tribe which did this sent out envoys to all the other tribes, urging them to seize the present opportunity of throwing off the Chinese yoke. Six of these emissaries were captured and immediately beheaded. A number of representatives of the tribes met in solemn conclave and pledged themselves in barley wine, drunk in cups made of human skulls, to carry on a war of extermination. Meantime Chinese troops are carrying fire and sword into the aboriginal villages, and by heavy bribes are inducing natives to guide them over wild and dangerous passes into the territory of the rebels. It is reported that the commanders of the force defeated in the first instance were cut in pieces and eaten by the tribesmen. For many years past large tracts in Formosa have been in a state of chronic insurrection. The more powerful, independent, and warlike of the tribes have commenced to feel the ever-increasing pressure of the Chinese immigrant population. Periodically they swoop down from their fastnesses on the Chinese settlers, burning and slaying on all hands. The Chinese troops come up and retaliate on the native villages, and the contest goes on from year to year.

## A DOG FOR THE PRINCE.

An explorer full of deep projects for the opening up of new trade routes may be excused if a limited and local enactment like the "muzzling order" fails to find a place in his thoughts. At all events, Captain Wiggins, whose adventurous voyages through the Kara Gates to Siberia have obtained warm recognition from British and Russian officials, forgot all about this usage for the protection of her Majesty's metropolitan subjects from hydrophobia. On the ice in the Northern seas, and on the vast plains of the Yenesei, muzzles are unknown, for animals at least. The captain brought with him from the Czar's Asiatic possessions a dog of a peculiar breed for presentation to the Prince of Wales. Accordingly he marched it through the City on route to Marlborough House without a muzzle. But the watchful eye of City Police-marshal 918 was upon him—or, rather, upon the quadruped. In vain the captain pleaded ignorance of the order, and his intentions as to the disposal of the animal. Police-constable 918 took his name and address, and this resulted in Captain Wiggins's appearance before Sir Polydore de Keyser at the City Summons Court, who doomed it his duty to vindicate the law and the "muzzling order" by fining the gallant explorer fifty pounds.

**ABANDONMENT OF THE PROSECUTIONS IN SOUTH WALES.**  
Official notification has been received at the Liberal Federation offices in Cardiff that the whole of the clerical plaintiffs in the South Wales prosecutions have now withdrawn the actions which they had preferred against the tenant farmers.

## DEATH OF THE "TIMES" MANAGER.

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## MEN OF TRIED INNOCENCE.

At the Neath Assizes, three men, named Murphy, men of the farming class, were charged with moonlighting at the house of Margaret Twomy, a widow, residing near Castlemartin, county Kerry.—The prosecutor was examined, and corroborated her depositions made in the court below, in which she stated that she was attacked by three men, who bound her hands with cords and ransacked her house. She, however, now stated that the prisoners were not the men who attacked her.—His Lordship: But did you not swear that they were?—The Witness: I was out of my senses then.—Was your deposition true or false? It was false as regards the Foleys.—His Lordship: You admit making a false charge against these men. You will be tried for it. I cannot allow people to play fast and loose with their oaths.—Mr. Redmond, M.P., counsel for the prisoners, asked that they should be discharged, there being no evidence against them.—His Lordship: There is none now, since that old woman was made to recover her senses. Of course I discharge the prisoners, who will go forth men of tried innocence.—His lordship suggested a prosecution for perjury.

## SAMSON AGAIN.

An application was made to Judge Bayley, in the Westminster County Court, in the case of King v. Samson, for the case to be set down for trial at an early date in consequence of the defendant, the "Strongest Man on Earth," being alleged to be going to leave the jurisdiction of the court. The plaintiff, who was at one time the defendant's agent, sued for commission on engagements procured for him.—His honour said he failed to see from the plaintiff's affidavit any cause to interfere. The defendant was not shown to be going away.—The plaintiff's counsel said the defendant admitted he had an engagement with Mr. Van Biene to travel in the provinces for eighteen weeks, and he would then be unable to appear at this court after the vacation.—Mr. McGee said there was no truth that the defendant was going away. Although a contract had been arranged for Berlin, it had not been signed. He was engaged by Mr. Van Biene at £150 a week, and all travelling expenses. The plaintiff had alleged that his client had previously broken engagements in America, but the defendant had sworn an affidavit in which he denied breaking engagements in America or Canada. He did break his engagement at the Aquarium through ill-health. His engagement with Mr. Bailey, the Berlina's Show, was terminated at a fortnight's notice by him. There was no ground for saying he was going abroad.—His honour thought the case should stand for the date fixed, and the costs would be the defendant's. The application was therefore dismissed, with costs.

## DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

Sir Arthur Blackwood presided over a crowded meeting, held at Exeter Large Hall, of sympathisers with Dr. Barnardo in reference to the recent decision of the Law Courts upon the Gossage case. On the platform were a large number of influential men, including some members of Parliament, as well as representatives of the various Christian Churches. A large number of letters and telegrams were also read expressive of sympathy and confidence. Mr. Spurgeon telegraphed from the south of France:—"Accept hearty sympathy and £3 towards expenses."—The chairman reviewed the work already accomplished by Dr. Barnardo during the past twenty-three years, during which over 14,500 destitute children had been rescued and cared for, and invited an impartial consideration by the public of Dr. Barnardo's statements.—Sir R. N. Fowler, M.P., moved a resolution of continued confidence in the homes.—Mr. Hugh Matheson, the Rev. A. Mursell, Mr. E. Husband, of Folkestone, and Canon Fleming supported the resolution, which was enthusiastically carried.—Dr. Barnardo intimated that proceedings would be taken towards setting a complete statement of justifying facts before the court.

## ANOTHER DISASTER AT JOHNSTOWN.

**55 Persons Killed and Injured.**  
The unfortunate town of Johnstown, which was almost swept away about seven months ago through the breaking of an up-valley reservoir, has this week experienced another fearful disaster. On Tuesday a fatal panic occurred at the Opera House. During the performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" a false alarm of fire was raised, and the entire audience, 500 in number, made a rush for the narrow exits. Unfortunately a large number of persons were seeking admission, and the outgoing and incoming crowds came into collision, so that the doorways and passages were completely blocked, and many persons were crushed before they could make their escape. Twelve were killed on the spot and seventy-five others injured, many fatally. Several ladies are also missing. The building, which is small, was crowded, the audience being composed for the most part of women and children. The theatre had long been regarded as a death-trap, and was condemned twelve years ago, but was recently re-opened in place of the one swept away by the disastrous flood in June last. It was subsequently ascertained that the alarm was given by some one outside the building near the close of the performance.

A later telegram states that the number of people killed is known to be ten, while five others who received injuries are reported to have died after being removed to their homes. The remainder of those injured, numbering about eighty, are suffering from bruises and shock to the system. A remarkable circumstance in connection with the disaster is that none of the killed or injured had a single bone broken, the cause of death being the crush at the narrow doorway leading to the street. Those in front fell and were trampled upon by those behind, while the crowd outside pressed so closely in their efforts to enter that the firemen were compelled to turn the hose upon them. A staircase leads from the door to the hall of the theatre.

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## SURPRISING A HUSBAND.

At the Westminster Police Court on Saturday, Mrs. Harriett Bottrell, of 13, The Royal Avenue, Chelsea, appeared to a summons charging her with using threatening language to her husband, Mr. W. Bottrell, clerk to a firm of Parsee merchants, at the above address on the 2nd inst. In opening the case, Mr. Strong said the complainant rented a house at £75 a year, and his wife let it and managed it during his absence in Paris, whither he went last May to take up the appointment of manager of an art exhibit in the Exhibition. During the time he was away he sent home money, and he had no reason to think otherwise than well of his wife until he received a letter which was intended for one of his employers, a Parsee gentleman named Jameson Sobhani Bhungara, commencing "My darling Jamie," and addressing him as "my darling boy," congratulated him on doing such good business in Paris. "Jamie," continued the learned counsel, was evidently short for the Parsee appellation "Jamesetjee," and the letter, which the surprised husband got through it being placed by mistake in the wrong envelope in place of one written to him at the same time, concluded, "With love to your dear self, I remain, yours as ever, HARRIS." The Parsee gentleman had been a lodger in Mr. Bottrell's house, and during visits to England, while the husband's duties kept him in Paris, he had stayed there. He went back to London soon after the close of the Exhibition, and as soon as possible Mr. Bottrell packed up and followed. He did not notify his intention, and arriving home at seven in the morning he tried to get in. His wife, with the chain on the door, refused him admittance, and although at length he got his boxes inside, he was really forced to leave and take bed-room in the neighbourhood. He applied to the court for assistance, and in the presence of an officer sent to see if he could mediate between the parties, the wife not only used violent threats, but

## Assaulted her Husband.

The complainant, on oath, bore out the statement of his counsel, and supplemented it by stating that his wife accused him of going to Paris and leaving her and the children unprovided for. He pulled out the letter which had fallen into his hands, and, greatly excited, she snatched it away and tore it in pieces. She threatened to break his head, and, taking the umbrella from the stand, struck him several times. He really went in fear of her.—Mr. D'Eyncourt, who had several times interposed to see if a compromise could be effected, was informed that that was impossible, as the husband insisted on his right to go to the house.—Mr. Dutton said his wife would not have him there. She paid the rent, and had kept herself and children.—Cross-examined, the complainant denied that while in Paris he had misconducted himself and been out with harlots and others. He did not steal the letter sent by his wife to Mr. Bhungara, but he could not produce the envelope. It had been destroyed.—Mr. D'Eyncourt did not see how the wife could very well justify keeping her husband out of a house taken in his own name.—Mr. Dutton said she had been treated badly for years, and she was going to take proceedings in the Divorce Court.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: There are remunerative statements on both sides, but I have only gone into the case of the threats. She might have been summoned for an assault.—Mr. Strong remarked that a man was master of his castle, and was not likely he was going to be locked out by his wife, backed up by the man to whom she wrote so affectionately. It was not the way for a married lady to write to a young man.—Defendant: An old friend of the family—old enough to be a grandfather. (Laughter.)—Complainant: He is thirty-eight—rather young for a grandfather.—After further evidence, Mr. D'Eyncourt said there was really not much in the letter beside the affectionate style of address. He could not go into the question of its propriety, and he must order defendant to find one survey in £25 to keep the peace for six months. The recognisance was put in during the afternoon.

## RIFLE RANGES FOR THE WHOLE METROPOLIS.

The announcement made on Saturday of the partial closing of one of the most accessible and most frequented of the few ranges that remain available for the western and southern portions of the metropolis, brings into fresh prominence another announcement made a few days previously respecting the long-talked-of site at Staines. It will be remembered that when the N.R.A. was anxious casting about for a site for the "New Wimbledon," there were left in suspense up to almost the moment of the selection of Bisley but two sites which appeared to have serious chances of adoption—that of Cannock Chase, which found many powerful advocates in the provinces, and that between Wraysbury and Staines, which found still more powerful metropolitan support. When the Bisley site was decided upon, and the hope was held out that ranges for the daily use of the metropolis might be found contiguous, with, of course, an opposite aspect, to those to be set out for the N.R.A. meetings, the Middlesex Rifle Association and the persons and corps interested were disposed to acquiesce in the arrangement, and give up the Staines site. It is unnecessary, for the moment, to discuss the reasons why the expected arrangement as regards the new N.R.A. site broke down. The result was that the negotiations for the Staines site were taken up afresh, and they have now (not a moment too soon) been brought to a successful conclusion by the gentlemen appointed to act for the promoters of a general scheme for metropolitan ranges, Colonel Bargrave Deane commanding 21st Middlesex Rifles, and Mr. G. Mortimer, the indefatigable secretary of the Middlesex Rifle Association. The last step in the negotiations which has been carried through definitively was of scarcely smaller importance than the securing of the site for the ranges, namely, the settlement of a contract between the railway companies and the Volunteers for services of trains by the companies running to Staines, at the cheapest possible rates and at the most convenient possible times. The committee announce that they have obtained concessions in these directions from both of the two companies named, which will enable Volunteers proceeding to the ranges to travel and fro at an exceedingly low fare from any Metropolitan or Metropolitan District station in the metropolis.

## 2nd LONDON RIFLES.

On Saturday General Philip Smith, C.B. (commanding the Home District), distributed the prizes of the 2nd London Rifles before a large company of officers and friends of the regiment.—Colonel Cantlon, in his opening statement, pointed out that there had been considerable improvement in the shooting as compared with the previous year, and in other respects he had a report of a satisfactory character to present. The position of the best shot in the battalion was achieved by Private Cuttriss, H Company, who also won Lady Roberts's challenge cup and other minor prizes. General Sir Frederick Roberts's challenge cup was won by Private White, A Company, winner of the Merchant Taylors' challenge cup, and many other prizes of less importance. The De Keyser cup was won by the right half-battalion (Major Greene in command), and the Nevinsford cup for the best company team in sword exercise by G Company, Captain Bunn's. The prizes in the inter-company cup series were won by D Company, Captain Mason (210), and F Company, Captain Spottiswoode (25). The winners of the prizes for company teams of four men each were won by C Company, Captain Livesey (first prize), and B Company, Captain Moore (second prize).

## POST OFFICE RIFLES.

On Saturday a very successful smoking concert was given by the Post Office corps at the Queen's Head, Cannon-street. Colonel de Plat Taylor was present, and made a cheery speech, forewarning a busy season for the coming year.

On Saturday, Thomas Hardy, 23, a labourer, of 43, Eopemaker's Fields, Limehouse, employed at the dry dock, Fletcher's Wharf, was attended at the hospital for a broken leg and lacerated scalp. He was walking alone a stage at the wharf where he was employed, when he fell off. He was conveyed to the hospital.

Albert Taylor, clerk at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, was found guilty at the assizes on Saturday of forging the names of two directors and the secretary of the hotel company to documents purporting to relate to the deposit of £1,000 worth of shares. He represented himself as the nephew of the Duke of Hamilton, and by means of the forgery raised nearly £200. He was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

About nine o'clock on Saturday a fire was discovered in a cabinet-maker's workshop and timber-yard in Tottenham Mews, Tottenham Court-road. As soon as possible a steamer and hose-pipe were at work, and the fire was extinguished, but not before much damage was caused.

On Saturday Mr. William Archer, well-known in the sporting world, and father of the late Fred Archer, the jockey, died at Cheltenham, at the age of 63 years. He will be remembered he won the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase on Little Charlton in 1858 and that he rode horses in Russia for the late emperor.

**BOUTILLON FIST.**—BRAIN AND BODY FOOD.—Highly nutritious and stimulating. Easy of digestion, pleasant to taste, and easily assimilated. Indispensable in the household. Suitable for invalids and debilitated people at all times when convalescence is necessary. Fist is a nourishing Food, supporting and sustaining the system and stimulating the nerves. Invalids thrive upon it. It keeps the heart strong, the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, &c., in full activity. It is a magnificent tea and delicious Soups without the aid of butcher's meat; also for Stewed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes, &c. Sold everywhere in Bottles.—Advt.

## DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES TO THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTERS.

On Saturday the annual distribution of prizes to the Queen's Westminster Rifles took place at the new headquarters of the regiment, the ceremony being performed by the Duchess of Westminster in the presence of a large company, which included the Duke of Westminster (honorary colonel), Sir Morell Mackenzie (honorary surgeon), Colonel Bushby, Colonel Lynch, Colonel Tracy (commanding the Scots Guards), the brigadier of the Grey Brigade, to which the Queen's belongs. Colonel Bargrave Deane (21st Middlesex) and other officers of Volunteers had places on the platform near the commanding officer, Colonel Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P.—The proceedings commenced with the usual report from the commanding officer, which was of a very satisfactory character. In numbers they had never been stronger in recent years than at present. In fact, except the Post Office corps, which had a special field for recruiting, it was the strongest in the metropolis. Its total strength was 961, of whom 99 per cent. were efficient. A most gratifying fact was that out of 45 officers belonging to the regiment no fewer than 19 had passed in the subject of tactics. They had an increased number of marksmen, and in other branches—cyclists, signallers, mounted infantry, &c.—the general increase of efficiency might be estimated from the fact that the capitulation grant earned during the past year was 4700 more than in 1884. The shooting of the regiment was well maintained, thanks to the energy of Major Twisday, their executive officer of musketry, supported by the marksmen and practised shots of the regiment. In this connection he had read with pleasure the remarks of the Adjutant-general the other night on the necessity of Volunteers being able to shoot and to kill the enemies of their country, and he welcomed the appearance on the platform of Colonel Bargrave Deane, who had just assured him that during the ensuing year they might expect to be able to carry out their shooting practice at the new ranges at Staines. In one company (Captain Rose's) every officer and sergeant had qualified as a marksman. Captain Rose had won the Grosvenor Cup and other trophies; that veteran shot, Private Lowe, many prizes in Belgium; and Sergeant Fulton, the champion of the N.L.E. Club with the highest aggregate on record.

The Duchess of Westminster distributed the prizes, Captain Rose, Captain Canning, Sergeant Fulton, Colour-sergeant Vickers, and the other principal winners of prizes being enthusiastically applauded. There was a large array of prizes, mostly handsome shields and massive pieces of plate, those actually shown being only the leading prizes. Sergeant Fulton (G.M.), Company, besides winning many minor prizes, was doubly the champion shot of the regiment, as the winner of the Smith Cup and as leader on the marksmen's list, his score in the latter victory being 202 out of the possible 230. Shoobred's Company (L) achieved the position of best shooting with a figure of merit of 231.17. The Vincent Challenge Shield was also won by L Company, with 100 per cent. of efficiency.—After the distribution a vote of thanks was proposed by Colonel Lynch to the Duchess of Westminster, Sir Morell Mackenzie seconding the proposition in the course of a little speech, in which he expressed his admiration at what he called the splendid physical condition of the members generally of the battalion. Out of six companies which had some months ago executed nine marches, extending in some cases to twelve miles, all came back in splendid form, four companies reaching headquarters at the appointed time to a minute, the two others being only five minutes late. Instead of many suffering men he found out of the whole only a single man had to fall out.—The Duke of Westminster responded on behalf of her grace, remarking that the city of Westminster would doubtless sleep more soundly at nights when it read of the very high state of the regiment in shooting efficiency. It was most satisfactory to him to see the progress made in the year by the Volunteer force generally, and by the Queen's Westminster Rifles in particular, under their excellent commanding officer.—Colonel Tracy, who responded to a complimentary reference to himself as the brigadier, said he had been particularly struck by one excellent feature of the report of Colonel Vincent, namely, the help given by the practised shots to the weaker ones. That accounted for a great deal of the regiment's success. Subsequently, a portion of the company adjourned to the basement under the hall to witness a competition for prizes with the Morris miniature cartridges and Paterson's electric target, an interesting novelty just introduced into miniature range shooting.

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On Saturday, Thomas Hardy, 23, a labourer, of 43, Eopemaker's Fields, Limehouse, employed at the dry dock, Fletcher's Wharf, was attended at the hospital for a broken leg and lacerated scalp. He was walking alone a stage at the wharf where he was employed, when he fell off. He was conveyed to the hospital.

Albert Taylor, clerk at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, was found guilty at the assizes on Saturday of forging the names of two directors and the secretary of the hotel company to documents purporting to relate to the deposit of £1,000 worth of shares. He represented himself as the nephew of the Duke of Hamilton, and by means of the forgery raised nearly £200. He was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

About nine o'clock on Saturday a fire was discovered in a cabinet-maker's workshop and timber-yard in Tottenham Mews, Tottenham Court-road. As soon as possible a steamer and hose-pipe were at work, and the fire was extinguished, but not before much damage was caused.

On Saturday Mr. William Archer, well-known in the sporting world, and father of the late Fred Archer, the jockey, died at Cheltenham, at the age of 63 years. He will be remembered he won the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase on Little Charlton in 1858 and that he rode horses in Russia for the late emperor.

**BOUTILLON FIST.**—BRAIN AND BODY FOOD.—Highly nutritious and stimulating. Easy of digestion, pleasant to taste, and easily assimilated. Indispensable in the household. Suitable for invalids and debilitated people at all times when convalescence is necessary. Fist is a nourishing Food, supporting and sustaining the system and stimulating the nerves. Invalids thrive upon it. It keeps the heart strong, the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, &c., in full activity. It is a magnificent tea and delicious Soups without the aid of butcher's meat; also for Stewed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes, &c. Sold everywhere in Bottles.—Advt.

## ARMY STATIONS for DECEMBER.

[When two places are mentioned, the last-named is that at which the depot is stationed.]

1st Life Guards, Westminster, 1st Dragoon Guards, Hyde Park, 2nd Dragoon Guards, Rawalpindi, 3rd Dragoon Guards, Matru, Canterbury, 4th Dragoon Guards, Newbridge, 5th Dragoon Guards, Lichfield, 6th Dragoon Guards, Carlisle, 7th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 8th Dragoon Guards, Worcester, 9th Dragoon Guards, Gloucester, 10th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 11th Dragoon Guards, Canterbury, 12th Dragoon Guards, Hounslow, 13th Dragoon Guards, Edinburgh, 14th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 15th Dragoon Guards, Aldershot, 16th Dragoon Guards, London, 17th Dragoon Guards, Halifax, 18th Dragoon Guards, Winchester, 19th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 20th Dragoon Guards, Birmingham, 21st Dragoon Guards, Worcester, 22nd Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 23rd Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 24th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 25th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 26th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 27th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 28th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 29th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 30th Dragoon Guards, Chelmsford, 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Messrs. SMITH, PAYNE, and SMITHS, of Lombard-street, London, E.C., and Mr. SMITH, MILLISON and Co., of the City of LINCOLN, are authorised to receive Subscriptions for the undermentioned Share Capital.

### BURTON AND LINCOLN BREWERIES (Limited).

Incorporated under the Companies' Act, 1863 to 1866.

**CAPITAL** " Divided into " £250,000

10,000 Six per cent. Preference Shares of £10 each " £100,000

And

10,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each " £100,000

And

PRESIDENT ISSUE, £100,000, viz.:

2,000 Six per cent. Preference Shares of £10 each " £100,000

And

9,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each " £100,000

Leaving £10,000 of Preference Shares, and £10,000 of Ordinary Shares available for future issue.

The Preference Shares are issued at par and are entitled to dividends half-yearly on 1st July and 1st January in each year, and rank in priority to the Ordinary Shares for both Capital and Dividends.

The Ordinary Shares are issued at par and the Articles of Association provide for the payment of half-yearly dividends.

**PAYMENTS AS FOLLOWS:**

Preference and Ordinary Shares, £1 per share on application.

6s. " Allotment.

6s. " Outright after allotment.

6s. " Allotment.

Or the whole amount may be paid on Allotment, £1 per share.

Allotment.

Dividends, £1 per share.

Outright after allotment.

## LAST WEEK'S POLICE.

## City Summons Court.

**KNOCKING DOWN A BARON.**—A cabman, badge 1,105, was summoned before Sir Reginald Hanson for driving his horse and cab to the common danger of the public in Lombard-street, E.C.—The Baron de Juffa gave evidence that he was crossing Lombard-street, and when nearly on the kerb he saw the defendant's cab, and put up his umbrella for him to stop, but he did not do so, and he was knocked down and run over. He had been laid up for a week in consequence.—Defendant said he did not see the gentleman until it was too late to stop. He had been a cabdriver for forty-three years, and had never before been summoned.—His employer gave him a good character, and the alderman said he was very reluctant to fine an old man, but he must in this case, as he seemed not to have exercised sufficient care. He would be fined 40s. and costs.—The money was paid.

## Mansion House.

**SAD TERMINATION TO A LOVE AFFAIR.**—A young man named Henry Endiugh was brought before the Lord Mayor, charged with stealing a silver chain, a purse, and other articles belonging to his employers, Messrs. Kendal and Co., watchmakers and jewellers, Cheapside.—The prisoner had been employed as a clerk for about twelve months by the prosecutors, and, latterly, various articles had been missed from the stock. The prisoner had for some time been courting a young lady residing with her parents at Kennington, and he was about to be married to her, but in consequence of certain information that was received, Mr. Langley, the manager to Messrs. Kendal, went to the house of the young lady, and she at once handed to him a silver Albert chain, a purse, and a lady's companion, all of which articles she said had been given to her as presents previous to their intended marriage by the prisoner. When the prisoner was taken into custody by Brown, a City constable, he at once admitted that he had given the articles mentioned to his intended bride.—The Lord Mayor sentenced the prisoner to hard labour for one month.—The young lady referred to asked the permission of the Lord Mayor to see her lover and bid him farewell, and thus was, of course, at once granted.

## Marlborough-street.

**THE LADY AND THE CABMAN.**—John Davison, a cabman, was charged with stealing a purse and its contents, £4 13s. 8d., the property of Captain Coombe, of Audley-square.—It was stated that Lady Jane Seymour Coombe, the wife of the prosecutor, engaged the prisoner's cab, and entered it near the corner of the square. After going a few yards she missed her purse, and ordered him to pull up whilst she searched for it. Not finding it in the vehicle she looked about the pavement near to her residence, thinking she might have dropped it as she left the door, but was unable to discover it. On telling the accused of her loss he got down and walked to the corner, and was then seen by a carman to pick up something. He returned to his cab, and then Lady Jane's footman was set by her to watch him through a window, and that individual deposited to seeing him open the trap and drop something on to the cushions below. Then he alighted, and appeared to be fumbling inside. In a few minutes he rang the bell, and said, "On looking again I have found the lady's purse." The butler told him he had better hand it to her personally.—Captain Coombe said that when he received the purse from the prisoner at the hall door he told him he was a most dishonest cabman, and called a constable and gave him into custody.—A solicitor who appeared for the defence said the prisoner preferred going for trial rather than being dealt with in that court, and Mr. Newton accordingly committed him to the sessions, and refused to allow bail.

**BURGLARY NEAR GROSVENOR-SQUARE.**—George Morris, described as a general dealer, having no fixed abode, was charged with burglariously breaking and entering 56, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, in the occupation of Messrs. J. Sampson and Sons, tailors, with intent to steal therein.—Mr. Sampson said the premises were in the occupation of his father, who resided elsewhere. They were left in the care of a woman named Glover, and on Friday night were securely fastened as usual. Early that morning he was sent for, and found the place in the care of the police. An entrance had been effected through the area windows under the shop, and on looking about he missed an overcoat, valued at about four guineas.—Sarah Glover said she slept at the top of the house. That morning, between two and three o'clock she heard a noise on the stairs, and on opening her bed-room door saw a policeman below. She partly dressed herself, and then learnt that the place had been entered by burglars.—Sergeant Howard, 11 C, said that shortly before two o'clock, when on duty in Brook-street, he heard a noise like the opening of a window, and, thinking that something was wrong, he secreted himself in a doorway. In about two minutes he saw the prisoner come over the area railings of No. 56, about thirty yards off. He walked sharply towards Bond-street, and witness had to run after him to stop him. Then he asked him what he had been doing over the railings, and he replied, "What do you mean?" Witness told him that he should arrest him for loitering, and took him at once to the station. On returning to the premises he found the area window open. The inner door had been forced, also a desk in the shop. A door leading into some mews at the back was also open. He searched the prisoner at the station, but nothing was found on him.—Inspector Kimber said that he went to the shop at half-past two and found a jeweller's (a formidable implement) and a dark lantern (produced) amongst some rolls of cloth. The prisoner made no reply to the charge.—Mr. Sampson, recalled, said the money had been removed overnight from the desk, but it was broken open and replaced in the safe. The area was unoccupied. It was supposed that the prisoner was one of a gang of burglars who were disturbed before they had time to remove their plunder.—Prisoner was remanded.

## Clerkenwell.

**ALLEGED INDECENT ASSAULT.**—Joseph Levenson, 33, furniture dealer, of Elver-street, King's Cross, was charged with having indecently assaulted Jane Pace, a girl aged about 14 years.—The girl had acted as servant in the prisoner's house, sleeping at home and going home for meals. She had only been three weeks in her situation, and said that on Tuesday he twice indecently assaulted her. She was sent home to her dinner within half an hour afterwards, but never made any complaint to her mother. On Friday she alleged that he behaved again indecently, and she ran out into the street. The prisoner followed her, and she then got a crowd round him and he was then taken into custody.—Mr. Ricketts, for the defence, remarked upon the girl's precocity, and on the fact that charges of this nature were now so much more frequent than formerly. Whatever might be the moral teaching of board schools, the gathering together of large numbers of girls seemed to have resulted in charges by mere children being made in increasing numbers.—Mr. Bros heard the prisoner, who gave evidence on oath denying the charge, and observed that in charges of such gravity every point must be above doubt before a man was put on his trial for such a matter.—He ordered his discharge.

## Thames.

**DR. BARNARD'S HOME.**—A respectable-looking woman applied to Mr. Hannay for advice, and stated that her boy, aged 4 years and 4 months, was an inmate of Dr. Barnardo's Home. She wished to get him away, but they refused to give him up. The applicant handed in a letter, which was read by Mr. Williams, the second clerk, in which she was charged with the lodgings, maintenance, &c., of the said child at the rate of 5s. per week, which came to £12 10s. They declined to deliver her child up until she had paid that amount.—In answer

to Mr. Hannay, the applicant said she did not understand the agreement. The child was still an inmate of the home. She had not a copy of the agreement.—Mr. Hannay said he was in the dark at present, but she had better go to the home, procure a copy of the agreement, and bring it to him.—The following is a copy of the letter referred to:—"The secretary of Dr. Barnardo's Home is desired to enclose to Mrs. Warren the account of her son's maintenance in this institution for the period from the 23rd of August, 1888 (the date of the boy's admission), to the 13th of August, 1889, when Mrs. Warren applied for his restoration to her. No charge of consequence will be made for the time which has elapsed since Mrs. Warren's application was made. Will Mrs. Warren either call at the office of the home, or write to the secretary to let him know how she proposes to pay the amount, whether in one lump sum or by monthly instalments? If the latter, Mrs. Warren must be prepared with some respectable person who will stand security for the due payment of the money. Mrs. Warren will recollect that the agreement to pay this amount was entered into by her on the occasion of the boy's admission."

## INQUESTS.

**STOCKING CASE OR POVERTY.**—Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, coroner for the South-western Division of Middlesex, held an inquiry at the St. Thomas's Schools, Arbour-square, Mile End, on Saturday, the 7th of September, removing the cistern and other things from the house. Both prisoners had been employed by him to do repairs to his houses.—Mr. Baptie said he should remand the prisoner on bail, and steps should be taken to obtain the witnesses' attendance on the remand.

## Westminster.

**PAINFUL SCENE IN COURT.**—Annie Smith, a girl of 18, wife of a young lighterman, who seemed very weak and ill, as, wrapped in a heavy shawl, she took a seat in the dock, was charged on remand, before Mr. D'Eyncourt, with stealing bed-linen and under-clothing, value 30s., the property of her mother, Agnes Tinson, from a house in Yeoman's-row, Brompton. It was previously stated that the accused, who occupies a room in the same house as her mother, was very near her confinement, and consequently, by direction of the magistrate, every consideration was shown her. She took articles from her mother's room and pawned them, and it now appeared from the statement of the prosecutrix that she might have done so at the request of her husband (the girl's father), who certainly had some of the money and spent it.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: What did you give your daughter in custody for? Did you disapprove of her marriage?—Witness: No. Her husband is a most respectable, hard-working young man. I don't wish to do the girl any harm. Be merciful to her, sir, and give her a caution.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: If I deal with it, I must do her harm in one sense. I must send her to the House of Correction.—At this juncture the girl shrieked and fell senseless in the dock. The mother rushed from the witness-box, and the painful impression in court was heightened when, greatly agitated, she assisted the galler and others to carry her child out of court. After a considerable interval the accused recovered from the swoon and was led into court. Her mother then expressed regret that she had entered on the prosecution, and said that her daughter was very ill, and she had to bring her to the court that morning in a cab.—Mr. D'Eyncourt said he would accept the girl's husband's bail to produce her if called upon after her confinement, and, addressing the prosecutrix, he added: If you desire to go on with it after that, you will have to bring her here.

## Southwark.

**A GERMAN FEMALE SWINDLER.**—Amelia Woollen, a young woman about 21 years of age, well-dressed and of attractive appearance, said to be a native of Germany, was charged before Mr. Fenwick with stealing a gold watch and various other articles and money, of the total value of £20, the property of a missionary home for women in Trinity-street, Borough.—According to the evidence the prisoner obtained admission to the home about six weeks ago, on her representation that she was destitute in London, and had no money to go back to Germany. After staying there a short time she absconded with all the portable articles of value she could lay hold of. Information of the theft was given to the police, and Detective Vall, M Division, succeeded in tracing the prisoner to 129, Dismal-road, Putney. He told the magistrate that there was a second charge against the prisoner for stealing £12 worth of property from a home in Hart-street, Bloomsbury.—The detective added that there was reason to believe the prisoner had committed similar frauds on other institutions, and Mr. Fenwick remanded her for inquiry.

**CHARLES OF STEALING A HORSE AND VAN.**—Charles Berry, alias "Long Charlie," 31, labourer; Samuel Long, 22, no occupation; Edward Foster, 23, carman; and William Hughes, 20, carman, were charged before Mr. Fenwick with being concerned together in stealing a horse and van, containing six cases of waterproof coats, the property of Charles William Johnson, carman and contractor of Milk-street, City.—The prosecutor stated that the prisoner Foster was one of his carmen. About half-past five o'clock on the evening of the 27th ult. he sent the accused out with a horse and van to deliver six cases of waterproof coats at Nine Elms. At eight o'clock the prisoner returned, and stated that the horse and van had been stolen while he was getting a cup of tea in a coffee-shop in Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road. Witness at once gave information to the police, and about half-past ten the same night he found the horse and van at the police station at Spitalfields, but two of the cases were missing. The property was altogether worth £550.—Mr. Fenwick remanded the prisoners for a week.

## Dalston.

**A YOUNG COUPLE'S FOLLY.**—Louis Edgar Hope, a young man about 20, well dressed and said to be a draper's assistant, at present residing at Pinner-street, South Hackney, was summoned at the instance of Emily Gertrude Francis Gammage, a dressmaker, residing in Worcester-street, Hackney, to show cause why he should not be adjudged the father of her male child, born on January 20th last.—Mr. Tattershall, solicitor, supported the summons, and said the case was clearly proved by the correspondence he held in his hand. The case was one of seduction and breach of promise of marriage. About three years ago both the parties were employed at a drapery establishment at Croydon, Hope as an assistant in the shop and the girl as a dressmaker. The intimacy then took place, but on the defendant leaving Croydon he wrote the complainant a letter saying that his love had entirely disappeared, and he could not marry her. He regretted to hear of her condition, but he pointed out that that was "her fault for allowing him to do what he had done, and she must make the best of a bad job."—The defendant fully admitted the case against him, but said he was out of work.—Mr. Tattershall said the case resolved itself into one of means, and the defendant on going into the box said he had no means whatever. He had friends in Hampshire, Leicester, and Sheffield, but they were distant relations and would not assist him. All he now possessed in the world was 2s. 6d.—An order for 3s. a week and 1s. costs was made.

## Highgate.

**ALLEGED INTIMIDATION OF WITNESSES.**—James White, a labourer, was charged with being concerned with his brother-in-law, William Bailey, a paperhanger, now on remand, in stealing in September last a cistern, several brass taps, and some lead piping from an unoccupied house in Willesbury-road, Hornsey.—When the case was called on, the prosecutor said his witnesses were not present. He believed they had stayed away in consequence of the threats made by the prisoner's friends outside the police

station on the previous night. His witnesses picked prisoner out of a number of others at the other man whom they saw on the morning of the 7th of September removing the cistern and other things from the house. Both prisoners had been employed by him to do repairs to his houses.—Mr. Baptie said he should remand the prisoner on bail, and steps should be taken to obtain the witnesses' attendance on the remand.

## EXTRAORDINARY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CASE.

At the Croydon Police Court on Saturday, Henry Hazel appeared in answer to an adjourned summons, issued at the instance of Mr. Harris, an inspector of industrial schools, to show cause why he should not pay the sum of £20, arrears due under a justice's order for the maintenance of his son James, while an inmate of the Milburn St. Andrew's Industrial School, Blandford, Dorset. The case was before the court a month ago, when the boy in question made the extraordinary statement that while he was at the school he broke his leg through falling off a wagon, that he bound up the injured limb with some old rags, and that none of the officials at the school noticed that he had met with such an accident. He admitted, however, that he did not mention it to anybody. His mother further complained that her son was put to hard work instead of being educated, and that she did not hear from him for nearly two years. It will be remembered that some of the magistrates commented very strongly on the circumstances of the broken leg, and adjourned the case to afford the school authorities an opportunity of explaining the matter.—Mr. Gregory now announced before the public opinion given to the matter upon the last occasion, and said he had brought a number of witnesses up from Dorsetshire, including the medical officer and some inmates of the school. Sir Thomas Edridge (chairman) said he really did not know what the question of the broken leg had to do with their decision with regard to this particular summons. No doubt certain statements were made as to the boy's treatment, and perhaps it would only be fair if the parties had an opportunity of offering an explanation.—Mr. Gregory said he was anxious that the fullest investigation should take place.—Mr. Gregory said that, speaking on behalf of Dr. Lys, the medical officer, he was instructed to flatly contradict the boy's statement. The bench had invited them to come and explain the matter.—Mrs. Hazel, in reply to the bench, said she still adhered to what she said a month ago.—The boy, James Hazel, was then examined at great length by Mr. Gregory, and stated that he was sent to the school by Mr. Birrell, the magistrate at Lambeth, before whom he was charged with beggary. At that time he did not know his alphabet, but when he left the school he had passed the third standard. He went to the school in 1886, and he broke his leg just twelve months later. He walked very lame and hobbled about. He kept the rags on it for three months, removing them, however, whenever he had a bath in the presence of the master. It was one of the rules of the school that every boy should play football, but he did not always take part in the game. He did not tell Mr. Walker of the accident, because he had the character of being lazy, besides, he had no business on the wagon. A few weeks before this he had injured the foot of the same leg by getting some glass in it, and he was attended for that while the bone of his leg was broken, but he said nothing about it. His leg caused him great pain. He used to be employed in the washing. He used to walk a mile and a half to church, but he was absent on two occasions. Dr. Lys used to attend the school every three months for all the boys to march past him.—Dr. Carpenter (a magistrate): There can be no doubt about the damage to the bone of the leg. The fact is, the boy had done wrong, and he tried to bandage the leg. You see he is a sharp fellow, and he has the ability about him which ought to make him a capital man some day.—On the suggestion of the chairman, Drs. Carpenter and Hetley (magistrates) and Dr. Lys took the boy into an ante-room and examined his leg. When they had returned into court Mr. Gregory said Dr. Lys was of opinion that the leg had been broken within the last three months and since the boy had left the school.—The Chairman: And Dr. Carpenter and Dr. Hetley think that the fracture is of some standing. What is the use of going on like this?—Mr. Gregory then addressed the magistrates on the whole case, arguing that the allegations must fall to the ground. His contention was that the leg was broken either before the lad went to the school or after he left it.—Dr. Hetley: You are now arguing against your own doctors' opinion.—Mr. Gregory: Well, medical men differ.—Dr. Lys, a medical man of thirty years' experience, holding several appointments in the district of the school, then gave evidence to the effect that the injury was never brought to his notice, and said he would be glad to have the opinion of Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, as to the probable date of the accident.—The chairman, who said he would rather not make a single remark upon the case, ordered the defendant to pay the 2s., together with 1s. costs. (To the boy): You and I will have more to say to one another some day. Good-bye.—Dr. Hetley said that as he was the magistrate who made some observations reflecting on the doctor, he would explain that he was not aware that the boy was dressed when Dr. Lys attended to his foot, and therefore, he might not have seen his broken leg. Under those conditions the doctor could not be blamed.—Dr. Lys thanked the magistrates for his remarks, and the parties left the court, the case having lasted nearly two hours.

## HAMBURG SHIPPING FRAUDS: JUDGMENT.

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## VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

(Communications intended for this column should be delivered at the office not later than 4 p.m. on Thursdays.)

That who still retain a sneaking hope that something will turn up to prevent the holding of the annual camp of the N.R.A. at Wimbledon next year, are again spreading reports to the effect that the necessary arrangements at Tinsley will not be completed by July. It is not my intention to refer to the subject again, except to say that at the offices of the association there is not the slightest feeling of anxiety on this point. More soldiers can be obtained, if necessary, to carry on the work, and the council have plenty of money at their disposal to employ as many civilians as they want. If all the necessary roads, drainage, works, offices, butts, and other things necessary cannot be completed in six months, it would be as well to cast about for other than English contractors to do the work. Let us hope we have heard the last of this sort of cuckoo cry.

For a long time past we have in this column advocated the formation of an A.S.C. in connection with the Volunteers, and it now appears that the newly-formed brigades are each invited by the Commander-in-Chief to form a department of supply. This, of course, is but another step in the direction of the formation also of a transport column, for the one is almost necessary to the successful working of the other. Each brigade is to have a supply officer, a staff of clerks, butchers, and bakers, but at present no provision is made for the delivery of the stores or for their proper distribution. Again, under the present organisation, the number of the staff must vary in accordance with the strength of the brigade. The way in which regiments have been brigaded is very unsatisfactory, for whilst some brigades number only three or four thousand, other unwieldy ones consist of upwards of ten thousand, and are officed by men who have not had half the experience of many who have been appointed to the command of the smaller ones.

The supply staff will have to be drawn from the various battalions forming the brigade, in all of which there are any quantity of men suitable for either supply or transport duty. To establish the latter branch would require the expenditure of a considerable sum of money, which it is not likely Parliament will be asked to grant. The supply department can be formed up on paper without any cost to the country, and when this is once done it may have an opportunity of showing its efficiency at an annual camp, or be set aside until an order for mobilisation is issued.

Lord Wolseley has been enlightening the Eastenders with a charming story of the Red River expedition. He has a great admiration for Volunteers of the right sort, and on several occasions has referred to the great forces which he saw for a short time on both the northern and southern side of the Potomac. His official position, of course, prevented any reference to the great Southern volunteer who died the other day at New Orleans, but still one can but remember the astonishing energy of Jefferson Davis in keeping together for years a Volunteer army under the most disadvantageous conditions. He must have been a man of no common metal to have accomplished all he did with the limited means at his command. His life, and that of the great lieutenant whose status is so soon to be unveiled, show clearly what can be accomplished by badly equipped and half-starved men who have confidence in their cause and in their leaders.

On Monday the Volunteer officers who applied for leave to go through a course of instruction in marksmanship joined the school at Hythe, and have since then been employed chiefly in going through their various tasks. It is reported that most of the gentlemen at present at the school are well up in their knowledge of marksmanship, and that the instructors have a very easy time of it with them. With the exception of a very short interval at Christmas, their attendance at Hythe will be required for another five weeks.

After a long connection with the 11th Middlesex (Railway) Volunteer Rifles, the Duke of Sutherland, K.G., has resigned the position of honorary colonel. There is reason to suppose he will be succeeded by Sir W. T. Charley, who was gazetted lieutenant-colonel in 1883. Sir W. Charley has long desired to be relieved of the duties of active command, and now the opportunity has arisen, there is hardly a man in the corps who will begrudge him his well-earned repose. The retirement of the Duke of Sutherland, who was very popular in the regiment, will be much regretted by both officers and men.

Some of the metropolitan corps appear to be pleasantly astonished at the amount paid over to them from the Lord Mayor's Fund. In certain instances the sum is in excess of that required for the purposes for which the money was collected. I wonder where the distribution sheet and the balance-sheet will be published? In the provinces the scheme does not appear to take at all. A Northern contemporary says:—"The contributors to the fund included many individuals, including members of Parliament, &c., who have no special claim to be considered Londoners, and some of them no doubt thought they were contributing to a fund applicable to the whole country, not merely to the metropolitan Volunteers, and few of the donors will put their hands into their pockets a second or third time to aid localities which may have a greater claim upon them."

Military cycling is evidently looking up, as the authorities at the War Office have sanctioned the expenditure of £2500 for cycles for the use of the experimental corps at Aldershot. By the way, the 26th Middlesex, or, as they are more familiarly called, the Cyclist Corps, had a merry time of it at the International Hall on Tuesday evening, the occasion being the first smoking concert of the season, to which upwards of 800 invitations were issued. The large hall was crowded with officers and men belonging to metropolitan corps, all in uniform, thus giving the affair quite a brilliant appearance. During the evening the shooting badges were presented to the best shots in the corps and the prizes distributed.

Colonel Cantlon, of the 2nd London Rifles, whenever he has occasion to address his men, never hesitates to express his opinion frankly on any matter touching the best interest of his corps. A few days ago he told his men their shooting had not come up to his expectations, and the falling off was only in a small degree due to the increased requirements now exacted by the War Office. To what is it due? It would be interesting to know, lest outsiders should put it down to causes not likely to reflect credit on the corps. Perhaps General Smith was right in thinking the shooting will improve as opportunities for practice increase. But the 2nd already have the use of a good range, so that even with the promised acquisition at Staines, the general's excuse can hardly be considered satisfactory.

The recent meeting of the South London Rifle Club, Mr. W. F. Bond, of the London Rifle Brigade, was elected a member of the committee for the ensuing year. The annual report showed the club to be in a flourishing condition, there being a small balance in the hands of the treasurer. After the formal business was disposed of, Mr. C. F. Lowe presented Mr. Bond with the miniature bronze jewel won in the Any Position Aggregate, for scores of 97, 94, 92, 88, and 87.

Past and present members of the London Scottish will greatly regret the very unexpected death of their secretary, Mr. Purcell. The funeral, which took place on Tuesday, the 10th, at Kensal Green, was numerously attended. His remains were borne from headquarters to the hearse by six sergeants of the corps who had served under him when sergeant-major. Among other gentlemen present were Major Flood, Capt. E. H. P. Fawcett, and Capt. and Mrs. G. R. G. Fawcett.

the first adjutant of the corps, Major Douglas, the present one, and Captain Hampton. Many wreaths were deposited on the coffin, one of the most tasteful being from the sergeant's mess. Mr. Purcell's connection with the corps as sergeant-major began in 1872, his appointment as secretary dating from 1881.

I am glad to learn that the promoters of the movement for securing "rifle ranges for the whole metropolis," Colonel Bargrave, Deane (Finsbury Rifles), Major Nicol (London Scottish), and Mr. Mortimer expect soon to be able to issue a prospectus of the company, with a strong board of directors of Volunteer officers. Let it not be supposed that there is any "promotion," as understood by the term in financial slang, about this company, which is purely patriotic in its origin and aims. With 1,000 acres of freehold land in Middlesex to fall back upon as security, the Volunteers and their friends will not have much difficulty in persuading themselves that it is not only a duty but likely enough to be profitable to invest in the shares of this company.

ELMAZ.

## VOLUNTEER REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

Six London.—All drills and parades are suspended from the 16th December to the 1st January. Swimming class on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 8.30 p.m.

11th Middlesex.—New rifles having been received, members are requested to order them at Headquarters between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon. No. 1000 White Metal Cup for the challenge cup for general officers, and it will be held at Colours-sargeant Hinton for the current year. The annual general assembly and distribution of prizes will be held on Saturday, January 12th, at Colours-sargeant H. Hobson, 21, Shaftesbury-road, Hammersmith, will act as master-dispatcher. Applications with reference to seats, &c., must be addressed to Mr. Middelton.

12th Middlesex.—Recruits drill discontinued until Monday, January 14th, at School of Arms at Head-quarters, 8.30 p.m. General meeting of the Association at 8.30 p.m.

13th Middlesex.—No. 1000 White Metal Cup for the challenge cup for general officers, and it will be held at Colours-sargeant Hinton for the current year.

14th Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company K.

15th Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company A.

16th Middlesex.—All drills suspended until Tuesday, January 16th. The swimming concert will be held at Headquarters on Saturday, 1st January.

17th Middlesex.—Officer in full dress wear. Lieutenant Momy, Company and drill room in Westminster Hall on Wednesday, at 8.30 p.m.; Saturday, 10.30 a.m. Recruit drill room, at 8.30 p.m. Monday, 7.30 to 9.0 a.m. School of arms; Gymnastic room, and Thursday, 7.30 to 9.0 a.m. Promotions; Sergeant I. Ireland, and Friday, 7.30 to 9.0 a.m. Promotions; Sergeant I. Ireland, and Saturday, 7.30 to 9.0 a.m. Promotions; Sergeant I. Ireland, and Sunday, 7.30 to 9.0 a.m. Promotions.

18th Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company A.

19th Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company A.

20th Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company A.

21st Middlesex.—Lieutenant Davis is posted to Company A.

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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Colonel J. M. Moody, Royal Marines, has been selected by the Lords of the Admiralty for the vacant commandantship at Gosport.

Bishop Crowther has undergone satisfactorily a painful operation at the hands of Dr. Crittett, for a severe affliction of the eye.

The Queen has become a patron of the Royal Counties' Agricultural Show, to be held at Winchester next summer, and has given a donation of £20.

The ratepayers of Lambeth have, by a majority of 1,988, rejected the librarians' commissioners' appeal for a penny rate. The conditional gift of about £15,000 is therefore lost.

The execution of William Duke, now lying in Strangeways Gaol, Manchester, under sentence of death for the murder of George Gordon at Bury, has been fixed for the 24th inst.

The Prince of Wales and Prince Christian visited the Smithfield Club Cattle Show at the Agricultural Hall. The Queen was the winner of many prizes.

Mr. Stanley has received the congratulations of the burgomaster of Brussels, in the name of the Commercial Council, on the happy issue of his successful enterprise.

The death is announced of the Rev. John Garwood, M.A., after a brief illness, at his residence at Kilburn, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. Mr. Garwood was for many years the clerical secretary of the London City Mission.

The whole edition of Lord Chesterfield's letters to his godson, which Lord Carnarvon has just issued for the first time through the Clarendon Press, has been taken up by the booksellers on the day of publication.

The Austrian colliery owners have raised the price of coal by 25s. a cwt., and a further similar rise is likely to follow. This is owing to the attitude assumed by the miners, who threaten to strike if their wages be not increased.

The Smithfield Club held their annual meeting at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the second day of the Cattle Show. Lord Moreton was elected president for next year, and the Duke of Portland invited to fill the office in 1891.

A duel with swords, the result of an altercation in Parliament, has been fought between Deputies Count Ladislaus Karolyi and Count Eugen Lazar, near Budapest. The latter was severely wounded in the arm.

Elias Snook left his wife in their home in the little Somersetshire village of South Cadbury, in a perfectly healthy condition. When he returned at night he found her stretched lifeless on the floor without fire or light. She had fallen dead.

Paris is not exactly the paradise of the man with an ill-filled purse. A small cauliflower, which could be had in London for 1d., costs 3d. Smoked bacon is thought cheap at 1s. a pound, and mutton at 1d. Coal is about 2d. a ton, and wood is a more expensive fuel.

In the Queen's Bench Division the other day, a writ of certiorari was granted, removing the indictment against Mr. Claude Marks and others, of the Mining Record, from the Central Criminal Court to the High Court of Justice, the trial to take place on the 13th January next.

While playing football several days ago Mr. E. R. Cheseaux, aged 22 years, a student of the Winchester Training College, received a severe injury to his spine, from which he has died. At the inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned.

A strike has broken out at Chemnitz, Saxony, among the employés at twenty-five dry works, and only ten per cent. of the workmen remain aloof from the movement. The strikers, who number 1,500, demand a large increase in their wages.

Mr. Vero Shaw has recovered £100 in the Lord Mayor's Court from the publishers of Mr. Benson's book, "How I Lost £225,000 in Two Years," being the balance of the amount due to him for services rendered in preparing that work for the press.

In the course of a speech at Dundee, Mr. John Morley said the "patrician garrison" in Great Britain as well as in Ireland must expect many novelties in the near future. Something must be done with the House of Lords, and he suggested that eminent peers should resign their privileges and get elected to the House of Commons.

The Board of Trade have awarded their silver medal for humanity in saving life at sea to William Dyer, master of the steamship Ben Vorlich, of North Shields, in recognition of his services in rescuing the crew of the steamship Black Watch, of Cardiff, which founderered at sea on the 11th of November, 1883.

Between the 1st April and the 7th inst. the total receipts into the Exchequer amounted to £23,818,580 as compared with £54,296,473 in the corresponding period of the last financial year; and the expenditure to £35,947,142 as against £27,026,443. On the 7th inst. the Treasury balances, which were £22,124,198 on the same date in the previous year, stood at £1,71,714.

It having been brought to the notice of the Commander-in-Chief that cases have occurred in which cavalry swords have been broken in tent-pegs, His Royal highness has issued an order forbidding the practice as one for which swords must not be used, and impressing upon commanding officers their responsibility for the proper use of the weapons given to their regiments.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Joseph Falvey sued Messrs. Clift, Nicholson, and Co., merchants, of Bermondsey Wall, to recover damages for personal injuries received through the plaintiff stepping upon some cotton seed on the pavement, which caused him to fall and injure his spine and his eyesight. The defendants denied negligence on their part. The jury found for the plaintiff, awarding £250 damages, the plaintiff having claimed only £200.

The annual general meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England took place on Thursday at the society's offices, Hanover-square. Lord Moreton presided. The council state in the report that the second half century of the society's corporate existence has opened with every indication of increased prosperity. During the past year 2,762 new members had been elected, an occasion of support which was unprecedented. The result of the Windsor meeting has been an excess of expenditure over receipts of about £4,000.

The Bishop of Wakefield, on returning with his daughter-in-law from visit to Canon Hall, was met by his coachman at Horbury Junction Station with a new brougham. On driving from the station the horse, which was startled by a passing train, swerved and bolted through a hedge into a field. The coachman was pitched off, head first; the horse broke loose, and the carriage and harness were much damaged. The bishop and his daughter-in-law jumped out, and escaped without injury.

Casper Clisby, a disappointed lover of St. Louis, has committed suicide, to the probable great benefit of the community. Clisby became enamoured of Miss Mary Anson, who reciprocated his affection. But Anson never viewed Clisby with suspicion, and declined to allow him to prosecute his suit. The repudiated lover took a horrible revenge. He visited the Anson family with a loaded revolver in his pocket and shot dead his sweetheart, her sister, and her father, and concluded the tragedy by taking his own life with the game weapon.

At the Liverpool assizes on Wednesday, George Gibson was convicted of committing two street robberies with violence. The prisoner was one of a gang of ruffians who prowled about the streets at night and attacked and robbed people. Mr. Justice Grantham, in passing sentence, said the prisoner was a pest to society. He had committed numerous offences, and his last term of imprisonment was a very short one. It was a parody of justice to give short sentences to habitual

criminals like the prisoner, whom he now sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

Little George Horn, of Paisley, mistakenly drank a dose of vitriol. The lad now lies dead.

Mr. Gilbert says he never reads dramatic criticism—at any rate, criticism of his own productions.

An old woman has died at Anglesey, who was married seventy-four years ago, and she had quite recently cut three teeth.

Mr. Halloway is still under police protection. The detective accompanied him in his recent visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle.

Only one-fourth of the population of England reach threescore and ten; only about fifteen in 100,000 become centenarians.

General Tropoff is dead. The general was the governor of St. Petersburg at whom the notorious coloneless Vera Sasulitch discharged her revolver.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin is confined to his bed by neuralgic pains. His doctors advise him to leave Cannes, which does not agree with him.

An investigation, based on a charge of high treason, is in progress at Grindelwald. The prisoner is said to have made plans of the fortresses of Grindelwald and Thun, and to have sold them to Russia.

Mr. Edward Evans, chairman of the Liverpool Reform Club, who initiated the Parnell Defence Fund in England, has received a communication from Mr. Farnell, accepting an invitation to a dinner next Thursday.

The recovery of two more bodies from the Monkton Colliery, near Longton, makes the total number brought to the surface since the disastrous explosion seven weeks ago fifty-seven. The relief fund now amounts to £10,000.

A contradiction comes from St. Petersburg of the telegram published by the *New York Times* stating that an Englishman had been arrested at Sebastopol on suspicion of being a spy, having been found making sketches of the fortress.

At the Liverpool Assizes, John Quinn, 55, and William Kershaw, 63, were convicted of coining and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. The police made a raid upon the house in which they lived, and caught them manufacturing coins.

An acceleration in the daily passenger service from Chicago to the Pacific coast has been effected as the result of recent traffic agreements, the journey being performed in eighty-three hours and a quarter, against ninety-four hours and a half as hitherto.

At Sandbach the neighbours of a man named William Egerton, on forcing the door of his house, found him lying on the hearth with a gunshot wound in his head. The man appeared to have been dead five days, and an old muzzle-loader lay in the room.

During the months of December and January trials with explosive torpedoes will be made in the roads of Holvestone, and torpedo boats, with a red flag as a danger signal from the masthead, will be stationed 300 metres above and below the dangerous area.

The Belgian Chamber has discussed the question of the festivities to be given next year on the occasion of the King's Jubilee. His Majesty has asked that all subsidies granted for these festivities should be devoted to the fund for indigent workmen.

The interment of the remains of the late Chief Constable Williamson, of Scotland Yard, took place on Thursday at Woking Cemetery. A funeral service was held in the forenoon at St. John's Church, South-square, Westminster, and was largely attended by friends and mourners.

William Hardy, a man about 42 years of age, who was hawker at No. 3 shaft, at a somewhat deep tunnel in process of construction on the Great Northern Railway, between Wood Green and New Southgate, fell into a hole, and descending to a depth of nearly eighty feet head foremost, his neck was broken, causing instant death.

A verdict of accidental death was returned by an East-end jury in the case of the infant daughter of the Rev. W. E. Thatcher, curate of St. Luke's, Stepney. The child was left in a cradle in the drawing-room near the fire, but protected by a guard. The cradle, by some unexplained means, caught fire, and the baby was burned to death.

At Brownhills, near Walsall, Dr. Gettings, medical officer of the Lichfield Union, was fined £1 and costs for stating, in a certificate of the death of a pauper, that he visited him on the day of his death, the visit having been several months previously.

An Army pensioner, with two medals, named Frederick Kaye, has lost his pension in consequence of a sentence of six months' imprisonment which was passed upon him at Lambeth. He was a butcher's assistant, and it was alleged against him that he had embezzled about £20.

The report of the establishment of a Catholic bank in New York, under the special patronage of the Pope, and with the Duke of Norfolk and Prince Borghese among the directors, is declared by the *Observateur Romain*—which probably speaks authoritatively—to be absolutely devoid of foundation.

At Holbrook, Derbyshire, on Wednesday, an inquest was held upon the body of Miss Mary Hannah Radford, who met with her death in a shocking manner. She was staying at the farm of her uncle, a Mr. Sims, and while watching a chipping machine became entangled in its mechanism. Her body was afterwards found in the machine, literally wrapped round the shaft of the chopper.

Some of the good people of Blairgowrie, the Scotch burgh, were anxious to have a free library. But they lacked the wherewithal. To whom should they appeal? A wise man wrote to Mr. Carnegie, the American millionaire. Would he help them in acquiring a library in the town adopted the Free Libraries Act? "Yes," replied Mr. Carnegie; "it is always a pleasure and a privilege to help those who help themselves."

Sir Percy Shelley was unconsciously a humourist. Once he asked Mr. Edmund Yates to come and see him on the promise of showing him something which he would specially appreciate. Mr. Yates anticipated a sight of his father's MS. or some such literary relics, but when he arrived he found that the object of his invitation was that he might see some new method of producing stage thunder which the worthy baronet had invented!

As a matter of fact, Stanley's hair became white long ago. His first African adventure bleached it pretty well. But he did not appreciate the venerable appearance which his grey locks gave him; and so they became black again, a good deal more suddenly than they had grown white. In view of the chance of another curious change of this kind, it is rather awkward that their present colour should have been so universally made known.

Miss Grace Reedie will give a concert on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Robert Deliman, at the Stoke Newton Assembly Rooms, commencing at 7.45. The list of performers should secure a crowded attendance. It includes Madames Zippora Montith, Amy Wagstaff, and Agnes Vallières; Messrs. W. Woodroff, H. Jones, J. D. Fitzgerald, Lovett King, and Sackville Evans. The well-known violinist, Mr. Val Marriott, is also announced to appear.

The Hawk tells a story good of an Australian magistrate apropos of German colonization. In sentencing a prisoner for assault, the magistrate said:—"Accused, you have assaulted a German. If it had been a Frenchman or a Russian the court might have dealt with you leniently; but we are on the eve of a European war, and if this man should complain to Bismarck that he has received a black eye in a British colony, and the perpetrator of the outrage had gone unpunished, the alliance between the two great nations might be endangered." £500 costs.

In a London correspondent hears that in Government circles there has already been some talk as to how the services of the judges and others who, in the words of Sir James Hannan, have been "tied to the stake" of the Parnell Commission for the past twelve months are to be rewarded. It is thought that the president will get a peerage, and that the other judges will get baronetcies. The secretary, Mr. Cunningham, may receive either a peeriership, should one fall vacant, or a London police magistracy.

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At an inquest in Lambeth it was stated that a woman named Evans, who was suffering from asthma and bronchitis, was compelled to leave the Lambeth Infirmary, and died about three weeks later. She had stated that she did not wish to leave the infirmary, but was compelled to do so, along with eight other patients. Dr. Lloyd, the medical officer at Lambeth Infirmary, said the institution was very crowded, and it was necessary to send to the infirm ward in the workhouse patients who were fit to be moved in order to

take your seat with your fellow-jurymen. The Sweep: Very well, sir.

A severe snowstorm broke over North Wales on Wednesday, covering the ground to a considerable depth.

The gas stokers of Stalybridge have received an advance of £d. a day in their wages, making them 5d. od.

At a City coroner's fire inquest as to the cause of the conflagration at the Salvation Army offices, Queen Victoria-street, on a recent date, an open verdict was returned.

Her Majesty's champion three-year-old short-horn ox, declared to be the best ox or steer in the show, has been purchased by the Home and Colonial Stores of Edwards-road and Islington.

The *Times* Lisbon correspondent states that a Portuguese line of light draught steamers is being organised to trade regularly on the Rivers Zambezi and Shire, in Africa.

The spree on which Michael Kennedy, a Yankee salt-holler, of Syracuse, and his wife, set out, had a terrible termination. The woman lies dead, killed by her husband's hand.

The death is announced at Vienna of Ludwig Anzengruber, the Austrian poet and novelist, whose works enjoyed great popularity. He was 60 years of age.

The Czarina, in the rather irreverent phraseology of a well-known Paris correspondent, is devoted to chamber music, the trencher, and the champagne cup.

The local magistrates at Hoboken, New Jersey, price a kiss rather high. A man snatched one from a passing lady in the street, and he had to pay fifty dollars and costs for the pleasure.

Colonel Clibborn, of the Salvation Army, has been arrested at Geneva. He is accused of visiting the place without a proper authorisation, having been expelled the canton last year.

The witnesses who will be called for the defence in the West-end scandal case will, it is said, include at least one prominent Government official and some Scotland Yard detectives.

Mr. Thomas McCubbin, a retired master baker of Epsom-street, Glasgow, had been sorely depressed of late. His depression ended in the unfortunate man cutting his throat.

Milk sellers in London assert that they lose every year thousands of pounds by the theft of milk cans. They are to have a meeting to concert measures for stopping the pilfering.

There is said to be no truth in the rumour that Sir James Hannan contemplates resigning his appointment as president of the Probate and Divorce Court. He is reported to be in excellent health.

John Blair was intent on his work of cleaning the roof of the Central Railway Station, Glasgow. Suddenly the glass broke, and the poor fellow, falling to the platform, met an instantaneous death.

While engaged at a Scotch village near Jedburgh along with a young girl, bruising corn, an old man named Robert Ardenbald was caught by the machinery, and before Paignton, in South Devon, was sold for £23,000, whereas thirty years ago it was bought for £25,000.

A report comes from Constantinople to the effect that a special commission has been appointed in Peria for the drafting of new civil and criminal codes. It is added that the Shah has expressed his willingness to forego several of his personal prerogatives and rights.

The public library which Mr. Gladstone is building at Hawarden is a large iron building, with five rooms. It is to contain 16,000 volumes, and the rooms are purposely built small in order to allow of quiet for those who are to use them for reading purposes.

Generally speaking, the denser the population, the greater the commercial and manufacturing activity, the higher the marriage rate. Thus we have, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, 13 per 1,000 of the population propitiating Hymen, in Northumberland 15.2, Lancashire 14.3, Monmouthshire, 15.8, and South Wales 15.5.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has, during the eighty-one years of its existence, issued from its London house alone 29,000,000 of complete Bibles, nearly 32,000,000 of New Testaments, and 11,845,000 portions of the Bible. This makes a total of 72,500,000 books issued from the London headquarters.

In consequence of the disturbance amongst the students at the University, forty of them have, as a correspondent at Odessa, been expelled and forbidden to reside in any Russian city. It is said that the dispute was not due to any political cause, but to "class prejudices and racial jealousies."

The British and Foreign Bible Society has, over a festival dinner in aid of the Bethnal Green Free Library, and in proposing the health of the Prince of Wales took occasion to state, in consequence of certain reports which were current, that he had every reason to believe his Royal highness was in excellent health.

The arrangements for the forthcoming visit of the Marquis of Salisbury to Grantham are being pushed forward rapidly. The committee have engaged a large building in the Dyas-road, capable of accommodating between 4,000 and 5,000 persons. The work of preparation has been taken up heartily by Conservatives, members of the Primrose League and Liberal Unionists alike.

House robberies in Paris having been so frequent lately, the police have requested the householders to close the doors of their houses and the gates of their courtyards at a certain hour in the evening. Several robberies which had recently taken place were due to the fact that the householders had themselves left their places open for the ingress of the thieves.

## JACK ALLROUND.

There are many ways of making Christmas puddings. Two weeks ago I gave a recipe for a pie keeping plum pudding in answer to several correspondents. Since then I have had a number of applications for other recipes. One writer says: "If you can, please tell me how to make a large Christmas pudding, not too rich, in which carrots take the place of apples." Others ask for "a good, but not too expensive, pudding." I have room for only one this week, but I hope many of my correspondents may be pleased with the carrot plum pudding I give. Take two pounds of grated carrots and two pounds of grated potatoes, chop up very finely one pound of beef suet, sugar, pick, and dry two pounds of currants; have one pound of sultanas and one pound of sugar, and of stale household bread crumbs very finely two pounds, have one pound of flour, a teaspoonful of a half a pound of carbonate of soda, and one teaspoonful of tartaric acid. These two powders should be dried in the oven or before the fire on separate plates. Have a teaspoonful of salt, three-quarters of an ounce of ground ginger, half a pound of chopped candied peel, three eggs, and a little milk. Before commencing to mix all your pudding thoroughly mix together on a large dish the bread crumbs, the soda, and tartaric acid, and the flour; then proceed, taking little by little of each sort until all the ingredients are well mixed together, reserving the milk and eggs to the end. The eggs must be well beaten before they are added, and no more milk should be used than is necessary to moisten the whole; a little brandy or rum may be mixed with the ingredients if wished. The above quantities are for the "large pudding" I am asked for, and may be divided into two, three, or four puddings, according to the size wished, or if half the quantity given of each ingredient be employed that will be sufficient to make a good-sized pudding; it should be boiled for from six to eight hours.

"Kindly inform me what is the best way to clean tripe?" writes "W. W. M." This most wholesome and nutritious food requires a great deal of cleansing, and when properly dressed is considered a great delicacy by many. You must first wash it again and again, using fresh water every time, and scraping it with a blunt knife each time; some use a short strong scouring brush in this washing with good effect. The next proceeding is put it into cold water, let it come to the boil and boil for ten minutes, and blanch it by plunging it straight from the boiling into cold water; then give it a further scraping and cleaning, place it again in cold water on the fire, and let it boil for two and a half to three hours, take it off and place it again in cold water and boil it for another three hours, after which it is ready to be dressed in any way you please.

I am continually appealed to for instructions for getting up collars and cuffs, and have several times given directions for making starch, both hot and cold. Laundry work, as I have often said, is best learned in a laundry; the pile of letters, however, now before me induces to give a few hints to my correspondents, who have asked me to solve some of the difficulties they find in turning out properly done shirt fronts, collars, and cuffs for their respective families. All these articles should be ironed in a damp condition.—"Lottie" is wrong altogether in her mode of proceeding;—if they dry up after starching you must damp them again either with a sponge or, better, by sprinkling water; then you attempt to iron them; but here it is experience alone that can teach you how much or how little to damp; for example, the "blistering" of which "Greenhorn" and "Florence" complain is often caused by ironing the shirts, cuffs, &c., when they are too wet, though, perhaps, often still because they were not properly starched. The starch must not be too thick, and each cuff, &c., must be starched evenly through and through, and not in patches; and if damped, must be dampened evenly. The iron should be used hot, how hot practice alone can tell you, and a great help to getting the iron to run smoothly and putting a good gloss on your work is to have a piece of pure paraffin wax or a pure paraffin candle, and holding your hot iron in one hand and the wax in the other, rub it all over the smooth surface, covering every portion of the iron, and swiftly and carefully, with a clean soft rag, rub off whatever is superfluous wax and with the waxed surface remaining iron the linen. Only use a little wax at a time; you can renew it when necessary.

"A Young Housewife" would like to know how to make some nice pastry for mince pies? Let her take one pound of fresh butter and one pound of flour, cut the butter in two and proceed to rub one half of it in the flour; then with pure cold water make the above into a thick paste. Now remove it from the basin, and with a rolling pin on a nicely floured board roll the paste out to about half an inch thick; divide the remaining half pound of butter into five parts, break up one part into very small pieces, with which spot over your rolled out paste, then double up the paste and roll it out again, and spot it over with butter as before, and repeat the process until all the five divisions of butter are used up. Now roll out your paste thinly, line your pie pans with it, put in the mincemeat, cover the top with paste, wetting round the edges, and press the two pastes together at the edges, then trim, and make a little hole in the top of the paste.

I am asked by "W. M." to give him directions for preparing a floor for dancing. He writes:—"It is a large surface, and requires a quick preparation, as the hall will be used for a meeting the previous evening." I assume the floor is perfectly even, if not it would be necessary that a carpenter should go over it to plane off the roughness or unevenness that exists, and should also with slips of wood fill up any open interstices between the boards. That, of course, can be done if necessary before the meeting. After the meeting the floor should be washed and let dry during the night. Floors are often washed with milk as a preparation for dancing; it must be allowed time to dry thoroughly before anything else is done. The best thing then would be to besweep the floor, having two men working for six or seven hours at the least with two weighted waxing brooms, specially sold for the purpose. When a good polish is attained all over the room, strong baize should be tied over the weighted brooms, and the floor should be well dredged over with finely powdered French chalk, and the baize-covered brooms well worked over to remove any stickiness from the wax; this proceeding will raise a dust, which must be allowed a full hour to settle, and then the room, tops of doors, &c., should be thoroughly dusted, to get rid of as much of the loose powder as possible. Beeswax is, of course, best, but a floor may be got into fair order very much quicker if, after being washed and let dry, a couple of composite wax candles are very thinly scraped over it, the composition rubbed in by heavy brooms, or even by "skating" over it with smooth boots, and then dusting with French chalk, as above.

"Benedict" is fond of cheesecakes, but he tells me as he is a working man; the recipe given two weeks ago is too expensive and complicated for him. As I have, unfortunately, never partaken of the pastry provided at his favourite restaurant, which he names, I cannot promise the following cheap filling for cheesecakes is quite the same as he is accustomed to. The ingredients are, half a pound of butter, six ounces of castor sugar, half a pound of stale spongecake crumbed and passed through a sieve, half a pound of potatoes boiled and mashed, the rind of one lemon grated, five eggs, and four drops of essence of lemon. First, in a warm bowl with whisk, forks, or a wooden spoon, beat up the butter, add the sugar, and beat both into a cream; break in one egg and beat it up, and so on till all the eggs are well beaten into the cream. Next stir in by degrees the spongecake crumb, the mashed potatoes, the lemon rind, and the drops of essence of lemon. Line your patty pans with puff paste

made as described above to "A Young Housewife"—and bake.

I am much obliged to "J. M." who sends me a simple and inexpensive method for cleaning bath sponges, which may be useful to my readers. Warm water three pints or two quarts, in which put half a pound of common salt; well wash the sponge or sponges in this, then rinse in cold water; next put half a pound of salt in three quarts of cold water and allow the sponge to remain in it for twelve hours, then rinse them well in cold water. Sponges, he says, when treated in this manner will be rendered equal to new.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[Though every care will be taken to ensure the accuracy of replies, the editor cannot accept any responsibility for accidental errors. Questions requiring to be answered the same week must reach the office by Wednesday morning at latest. Those sent in later will be answered in the following week. Enclosed MS. not accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope or wrapper, will be destroyed. Whenever payment is required for contributions they must be so marked, the amount being either specified or left to the editor to fix. All questions should be addressed to "Editor, 'The People,'" "Miscellaneous," in addition, in accordance with their speed to characterize, in order to facilitate classification.]

## LEGAL.

**ESTELLA.**—As the agreement was verbal, it would be unsafe to express opinion on the case without hearing the other party's version. She may, perhaps, dispute the accuracy of your recollection.

**F. W. G.**—Yes; the warrant would still hold good.

**M. A. G.**—As soon as the child is born she can obtain an affidavit on affording proof of her claim. Until then she can do nothing.

**J. SWINSON.**—If no acknowledgement of the debt has made during the six years, the claim is barred, provided that the creditor had means of prosecuting the claim during that time.

**F. AWANS.**—Such claims are usually paid in order of precedence. The rule of the club governs the case.

**A. COOK.**—See legal advice.

**CONSTANT HEADER.**—So far as we can judge from the scanty notes you give, it appears to be a yearly hiring, and in that case six months' notice must be given, to expire on the same date as the tenancy began. You must that you took the premises on the condition of giving six months' notice, and yet you now want to cut down that term by one day.

**H. COOK.**—Yes; for the full term, six years, prescribed by the Statute of Limitations in such cases.

**JOHN.**—No.

**W. T. FOXES.**—Give him notice to quit, and take legal proceedings for the recovery of the back rent.

**OMEGA.**—See him in the county court. We cannot undertake to what extent he would be liable.

**B. T. TOME.**—For the balance only.

**LAWRENCE.**—You need only pay the taxed costs of the other side; your own solicitor's charges must, of course, be paid in full.

**ONE OF THE PEOPLE.**—The executors are responsible for the liabilities of the deceased so far as his estate is sufficient to meet them. It must be executed in the same manner as a will.

**JUSTICE.**—Without seeing the several agreements and hearing what each party has to say, it would be unsafe to express any opinion. You should consult a solicitor.

**JACK.**—It would be as illegal as cruel. What fine sport, to shoot tame pigeons!

**R. M. S.**—You are responsible for the value.

**PATRICK.**—Two; but if both were given to the same candidate, the other would be liable.

**F. C. W.**—The landlady could still get the agreement stamped by paying a fine. In default of her doing so, six months' notice, to expire on the date when the tenancy began, would suffice.

**AFFILIATED.**—We doubt whether the damages, if any, would be "substantial."

**J. S. NO.**—You can bring an action for trespass if you like.

**A. JENKINS.**—Not until your mother is in receipt of her pension.

**H. B.**—The law prescribes that it must be effectually done; the operator that has to sue his own judgment as to the number of punctures required.

**J. G. S.**—The landlord is right.

**MR. VERA.**—The new landlord stands in the same position as the old one.

**A. S. H. R.**—An order for payment would be made against him in the court, and if he failed to comply, he would be imprisoned for contempt. 2. Yes. 3. No.

**B. R. W.**—Consult a solicitor.

**A. HANSON.**—The employer had no right to deduct fine unless you covenanted that effect when entering his service.

**A THROBBED ONE.**—B was never his wife, and therefore cannot exert any authority whatever in the disposal of his estate. She should acquaint those who have written to her with her true position.

**J. P. B.**—You are entitled to possess the book, and if your father refuses to give it up he will render himself liable to prosecution.

**IGNATIUS.**—Consult a solicitor; it is far too intricate a matter to be dealt with in this column.

**C. W. E. B.**—If you took it by the week, as apparently was the case, you can terminate the tenancy by giving a week's notice. You will have to pay rent for that week.

**WESTBURY.**—An innkeeper is bound to supply refreshment to any adult of sober and able to pay.

**I. K. G.**—To answer your query, it would be wholly lawful for the owner to demand a sum of money to be paid to him for services rendered.

**CONSTANT READER.**—The landlord can, of course, claim the covenanted rent.

**H. C.**—It is impossible to strike an average, as the earnings vary immensely, some making handsome incomes, while others get little more than the ordinary rate for house-painting.

**CONSERVATIVE.**—Consult a solicitor; it is far too intricate a matter to be dealt with in this column.

**C. W. E. B.**—If you took it by the week, as apparently was the case, you can terminate the tenancy by giving a week's notice. You will have to pay rent for that week.

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**CONSTANT READER.**—The landlord can, of course, claim the covenanted rent.

**H. J. H.**—You are still liable for the whole amount owing.

**J. P. N.**—Not of sufficient general interest for insertion.

**A. SOLDIER.**—Yes, as you have not fulfilled the conditions of the promissory note.

**W. C. GILROY.**—The report necessarily appeared in a very small paper; it is most unsafe to form judgment on such abbreviations.

**LOUIS BARLOW.**—Such works are abundant; the price is very great. Consult a bookseller.

**KING ALFRED.**—Write to the registrar of wills, Somerset House. The cost of a copy depends on the length of the original.

**THE IRON.**—Occasionally they appear in the daily papers, but a rule they are inserted in the local press.

**RICHMOND.**—We cannot say; write to the secretary of the guild. 2. Consult a bookseller.

**H. A. L.**—Yes. 2. If there be any weakness of the spine, the ligatures afford support.

**THE IRON.**—There are many respectable dealers in such goods. It would be against our rule to recommend one or another.

**ST. JOHN.**—The marriage is perfectly legal; they are only first cousins once removed.

**THEIR OWNERS.**—If they were ever founded to us in the usual sense of the term, are unknown. 2. No.

**H. O. LEAVY AND F. W. SMITH.**—Many thanks; will give information at a later date, as space serves.

**A. PARSON.**—Many thanks. Will

ron on later.

**W. J. C.**—Quite impossible to answer your questions without being made acquainted with all the circumstances of the case, on both sides. Do not understand how any demand can be made for rent if the man lived rent free.

**J. W. WILSON.**—Quite out of date.

**A. L. S.**—Either water of ammonia applied with a soft cloth, or a cream made of whiting and spirits of wine; but if the "ivory" is not real, little improvement can be hoped for.

**HENRY.**—Probably at a druggist's. We do not find it in any of our stock lists, and cannot say what it costs.

**ALFONSO.**—To make good eau de Cologne you should dilute it with water.

**PERIODICALS.**—Perhaps you would not care to go to that trouble. We believe a pretty good performance can be put up for eau de Cologne by mixing two drachms each essence of citron and lavender, one ounce of lemon peel, half a drachm oil of lavender, ten drops essence of orange blossom, one drachm tincture of benjamin, and two drops of rosemary.

**ROSE.**—We have not met with the brown ink you speak of.

**WICARFIELD.**—A book by T. D. Lockwood on the telephone, published by Spottis, 128, Strand, London, would probably give you the information. If you write to the publishers, and say you want to know, they will tell you what to do.

**E. R. W.**—It would be cheaper to send them to the dyer's, except for black.

**BLACKMINT.**—Probably you keep it in a damp or too hot a place; other would injure the leaves.

**J. T. I.**—Bread burnt to charcoal and then pounded in a mortar and ground fine with water. 2. The gold paint never dries if it is applied to the skin.

**LEMON.**—It is the best, but a floor may be got into fair order very much quicker if, after being washed and let dry, a couple of composite wax candles are very thinly scraped over it, the composition rubbed in by the hand, and then dusting with French chalk, as above.

**BENEDICT.**—Is fond of cheesecakes, but he tells me as he is a working man; the recipe given two weeks ago is too expensive and complicated for him.

As I have, unfortunately, never partaken of the pastry provided at his favourite restaurant, which he names, I cannot promise the following cheap filling for cheesecakes is quite the same as he is accustomed to. The ingredients are, half a pound of butter, six ounces of castor sugar, half a pound of stale spongecake crumbed and passed through a sieve, half a pound of potatoes boiled and mashed, the rind of one lemon grated, five eggs, and four drops of essence of lemon.

**YOUNG ARISTOCRAT.**—The two young men you name are well known success in the world of fashion.

**EXILE Z.**—We do not give addresses, and are not in a position to give the advice asked for. We are sorry not to be of use in the matter.

**J. C. O.**—You will find the recipe in this week's "Jack Allround" column.

**S. H. G.**—Your cheapest and best method to revive the colour is send it to the dyer's.

**FARD G. Z. P.**—You might try by working off the mahogany polish with fine glasspaper, then apply dark walnut stain, which you can buy for a few pence at the oil shop, or make up ays of the walnut stains recently given by

"Jack Allround," and when you have got it to the colour you wish re-polish or varnish.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

**H. J. (Fulham).**—Thanks very much for your interesting letter. As to your question of the longevity there is not and cannot be any record, but we suspect that your bird will live

**THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.**  
It is understood that Parliament will be summoned at a later date than usual or than has been expected.

**NOTICE.**  
To avoid loss of time and inconvenience, all communications on business matters should be addressed to the MANAGER, and not to the EDITOR.

### PERSONAL.

**ERNEST.**—You are earnestly requested to communicate with your Sister [Clare], who will do all she can for you.—Q.C.G.

**ONE REWARD.**—Supposed to have been left in a Four-wheeled Cab, which set down in the Brompton-road last evening about 10.30 p.m., large, red-backed LEDGER, containing the above, and the following note to pay any sum in reward to the Owner, 21, Duke-street, St. James's, shop door.

**FIVE POUNDS REWARD** (no further Reward offered).—  
London.—A small, rough, wire-haired TERRIER, black with red tan mask and paws, weight about 12 lb., white patch on his head.—Whoever will bring the same to the above address shall receive the reward.

### SITUATIONS WANTED.

**GENERAL SERVANT.** 16, tall, neat girl, 10 months' character, wages £10 per week.—Matilda, Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**GENERAL SERVANT.** 17, tall, strong girl, 6 months and 10 months' character £9 to £10.—Olivia, Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**TWO PLAIN COOKS,** age 22 to 30, able to do good plain cooking, good character, wages £20 to £25.—Apply to Hetherington's, 106, Edgware-road.

**YOUNG SERVANT,** age 15, looks older, strong, willing girl, used to housework, 9 months' character, wages £12 to £14.—Apply.—Hetherington's, 106, Mile End-road.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 22, understanding good plain cooking, character £12 to £14.—Apply.—Hetherington's, 106, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

**GOOD GENERAL SERVANT** or **PLAIN COOK,** age 20, good character, wages £12 to £14.—Apply.—Hetherington's, 106, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 22, able to do plain cooking and washing, good character, £12 to £14.—Kate, Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 22, respectable, neat appearance, can plain cook, good moral character, wages £12 to £14.—A. C. Hetherington's, 106, Edgware-road.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 22, can do plain cooking, good character, wages £12 to £14.—J. J. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 16, fond of children, little plain cooking, good character, £12 to £14.—Annie, Hetherington's, 106, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 17, neat and clean, cooking experienced, little washing, 8 months' character, wages £12 to £14.—Eliza, Hobbs's, Mill's Foot House, 24, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** age 18, 19, bright-looking girl, fond of children, knowledge of cooking, and willing to do little washing, 12 months' character, wages £10.—Apply, Hetherington's, 106, Mile End-road.

### SITUATIONS VACANT.

**PAGE** wanted, are 16, wages £10 and livery.—Miss B. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT,** 20 to 22, 2 in family, no children, £10, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**YOUNG GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, about 16 or 17, 2 in family, 1 child, wages £10 to £12, good home.—Miss B. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are 20 to 22, 4 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. F. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**GENERAL SERVANT**, about 17, wanted at once, another servant kept, good personal character.—Lynton House, Bowes-road, Palmer's Green, N.

**NURSE** wanted, are 21, must be fond of children and good needlewoman, wages £10 to £12.—Mrs. G. Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, about 16, need not have been on before, small family, wages £10.—Mrs. G. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted for lady, age about 25, no washing, wages £10.—Miss K. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are about 25, 2 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are about 25, 2 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are about 25, 2 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 106, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

**TO TWO YOUNG GIRLS** wanted, are 16 to 18, wages £12 weekly, good places.—Two GENEALOGISTS, 216, Edgware-road.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, able to do plain cooking, £10 per week; no washing, wages £12.—Apply, Mrs. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**HOUSEMAID** wanted, are 18 to 20, for business house, only 1 baby, 12 months' comfortable service, wages £10 to £12 to £14.—Apply, Mrs. F. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are about 25, 2 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are about 25, 2 in family, boy-servant kept, wages £10.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**YOUNG GIRL** wanted, as nurse to two children, but not entire charge, wages £10, good home.—Miss J. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**SERVING-MAID** wanted, to take charge of 2 children, aged 3 and 6 years, good place, kind master, wages £10 to £12.—Mrs. A. Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, who can do plain cooking, £4 a week, another servant kept, quiet, comfortable place, wages £10 to £12.—Mrs. S. Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, are 25 to 35, must be able to do plain cooking, must have good character, wages £10 to £12.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

**HOUSE AND HOUSE-MAID** wanted at once, are 22, able to wait well, and fond of children, good character, wages £10 to £12.—Apply personally, on Monday, at Oak Lane, Holland Park, N.W.

**TWO SERVANTS** wanted—**GODFREY GENERAL** or **PLAIN COOK**, about 21, wages £10 also **HOUSE-MAID**, 18 to 22, as maid to young family.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 106, Queen's-road, Peckham.

**COOK** wanted, £10 to £12, **HOUSE** and **PARLOUR-MAID**, 20 to 22, **GENERAL SERVANT**, to help £14, 2 in family, no children, easy place, no washing.—Mrs. Pipe, 106, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, London.

**WANTED** for the Care, Seven Domestic Servants—**PLAIN COOKS,** £21; **HOUSE-MAIDS,** £24; **SEWING-MAID,** £24; payment paid, 12 months' agreement, start January 1st, ages 21 to 24.—Good references.—Apply to Hetherington's, 106, Strand, London, post for 14d.

**10,000 COUNTRY AGENTS** wanted for a large high class Tailoring House in London.—Apply for terms, &c., to Manager, Mr. F. White, 106, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

**NO WARD SERVANTS.**—Wanted at the NORTHERN FEVER HOSPITAL, Winchmore Hill, N.W.—**WARD SERVANTS**, at wages of £8 per annum, with board, lodgings, washing, and uniform.—Candidates who are under 25 years of age, and who must have had previous service in a public institution, are to apply to the Matron, on or before the 1st instant, either personally, bringing testimonials with them, or by letter, enclosing copies of recent testimonials.—10th December, 1889.

**NO WARD SERVANTS.**—Wanted at the SOUTHERN FEVER HOSPITAL, New Cross-road, S.E.—**WARD SERVANTS**, at wages of £8 per annum, with board, lodgings, washing, and uniform.—Candidates who are under 25 years of age, and who must have had previous service in a public institution, are to apply to the Matron, on or before the 1st instant, either personally, bringing testimonials with them, or by letter, enclosing copies of recent testimonials.—10th December, 1889.

**YANES.—£10,000 COUNTRY AGENTS** wanted for a choice suburb, Surbiton; east distance from 5 railway stations; bus with 2 engines and engine; rent £25; eminent brewer.—No letters, call Monday.

**YANES.—£15,000 COUNTRY BEERHOUSE,** surrounded by market towns; rent only £5; large garden, fine yard, outbuildings; best beer in the country; would suit a dealer.

**YANES.—£20,000 NEWS, STATIONERY, BOOKSELLER,** same hands 15 years; proprietor residing through advanced age; rent £5 weekly; shop and rooms 1½ miles from City.—Apply as above.

**YANES.—£20,000 FEEDING HOSPITAL,** New Cross-road, S.E.—**WARD SERVANTS**, at wages of £8 per annum, with board, lodgings, washing, and uniform.—Candidates who are under 25 years of age, and who must have had previous service in a public institution, are to apply to the Matron, on or before the 1st instant, either personally, bringing testimonials with them, or by letter, enclosing copies of recent testimonials.—10th December, 1889.

### SITUATIONS VACANT—(CONTINUED.)

### BUSINESSES, HOUSES, &c.—(CONTINUED).

### BUSINESS INVESTMENTS.

**HOTELS, INNS, BEER, AND BOARDING-HOUSES.**—Those requiring to sell or buy a business, or lucrative business, and any other concern, call or write to Messrs. GREENWAY, 106, GOWER-STREET, W.C., the old-established and recommended agents. Cash advanced to complete purchases at 5 per cent. if credit. Register free.

**STONE AND EVANS,** BREWERY AGENTS, 20, Eastgate (adjacent to Gower-street Station).

**£1200—FIRE-REBROUHSE,** 106, GOWER-STREET; less 20 years; rent £20; trade £25 monthly; must be double with proper attention; very nice house.—Personally, STONE and EVANS.

**£400—COMMERCIAL HOTEL;** elaborately furnished; 18 miles out; important junction on Great Western main line; close to station; rent £30; doing most profitable trade; beautiful house.—Apply personally.

**£500—FREE PUBLIC CITY,** 106, GOWER-STREET; less 20 years; rent £10; paying £20 monthly, and large sundries; great luxury home comfort, and easily managed.—STONE and EVANS.

**FOR SALE, OLD-ESTABLISHED CHIMNEY SWEEP AND CARPENTER,** 106, GOWER-STREET; less 3 years; trade £100; hands wanting a chance, all requiring Employment.—Apply.

**BEERHOUSE (Corner), £20;** returnable from brewer; £10; trade £10 per month; 100 feet frontage; 100 yards deep; 100 feet back; 100 feet high; plenty of tools; price £50.—Apply, JONES, Eastgate-road, West Streatham.

**£1000—FREE PUBLIC CITY,** 106, GOWER-STREET; less 20 years; rent £10; paying £20 monthly; 100 feet frontage; 100 feet back; 100 feet high; plenty of tools; price £50.—Apply.

**MISCELLANEOUS—(CONTINUED).**

**A COUCHEMENT.**—Superior Home, private, for Ladies before and during confinement, combined with skilled nursing; terms moderate.—Mrs. COOKE, from the General Hospital (Certified), 20, Nelson-street, Finsbury, E.C.

**A COUCHEMENT, BOARD, AND APARTMENT** (private), in the house of a Diploma'd Midwife; skilled nursing, professional attendance; terms moderate; female complaints and irregularities confidentially treated by letter or otherwise.—Mrs. DAVY, 27, St. John's-road, Upper Holloway.

### PUBLICATIONS.

### AMERICA, £3 I.O.S.—BUENOS AIRES,

**FULL FARE** by ROYAL MAIL NETHERLANDS LINE to New York or Philadelphia.—Departure every Thursday, 6 p.m. Saloon, £7 10s, and £10—Cabin, £5 10s, and £8—Children under 12 years free. Australia and New Zealand, £12 10s. Reduced fares from New York. No office in London. **NEW LINE** of STEAMERS to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, £2 10s. **BOHUMIL'S**, 106, Strand, **Passenger's Guide**, post free £2 10s to T. W. HETHERINGTON, Chief Office, 106, Strand.

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**THE LONDON GAS STRIKE.**

The Men Turning Out.  
Works Provisioned for a Siege.

**Exciting Scenes—Latest.**

The difficulties between the gas stokers in the employ of the South Metropolitan Gas Company and their employers have reached the acute stage. An attempt was made on Wednesday to bring about a settlement by a conference between the gas directors and delegates of the Stokers' Union and the General Union of Coal Porters. The conference resulted in nothing. Another conference with a view to put an end to the dispute was held the same morning at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor presided, and amongst those present were Cardinal Manning, the Rev. Dr. Clifford, the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, and the Rev. Andrew Mearns. Representatives of the coal trade and a deputation from the Coal Porters' Union attended. As the result of the meeting, it was determined to bring together a number of representative coal merchants, in the hope that their influence would tend to a settlement of the dispute. No terms could, however, be agreed upon, and at two o'clock, on Thursday afternoon the first lot of stokers ceased work and were paid off. The second "shift" completed their week's notice at ten o'clock, and the third at six o'clock on Friday morning. All the men who have given notice to terminate their engagements had then left the works, and the strike was in full swing. At present the outlook is promising. The directors' attitude could not be more confident. They have, they say, more than a sufficiency of men, and have taken full precautions against any interference with them by the strikers. In a corresponding ratio, the men themselves are far from feeling that they are on the safe side, notwithstanding the assuring words daily uttered by their leaders. The collapse in Manchester has naturally damped the ardour with which they entered on the struggle, and they are beginning to feel that they are likely to share the fate of the Manchester stokers, of having no work to do, without having the solace of knowing that they are inflicting grievous trouble and loss upon the company.

**Scenes in the Old Kent-road.**

The first batch of 200 men to leave work began to pass out at the gates at 709, Old Kent-road, shortly before two o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and the local excitement was much intensified by the presence of a large crowd in the vicinity of the gas offices. As the men left they were paid their two-thirds superannuation money. Mr. Mitchell Henry, of the Coal Porters' Union, wired from the Mansion House to the stokers' committee-room that the coal porters are pledged to a joint action in stopping coal if such action will end the strike. Shortly before two o'clock, when the last lot of coke had been drawn from the "beds" the stokers raised a cheer, packed their bundles, and at once went to the pay office. Here about 150 constables were drawn up two deep, while mounted men patrolled the yard. The men were all paid the eight days' wages owing to them, and a few who questioned the accuracy of the amount given them were told to stand aside and settle any difference with the foremen of their ranges. In a quiet orderly manner the stokers then left the yard, and were cheered by some hundreds of persons assembled outside. Beyond this there was no demonstration, and the police had but little to do. The authorities at the gas company's office state that there is no change in any way in the position of affairs. Policemen are on duty on the banks of the canal which runs by the gasworks, while men are also stationed outside the various retorts. Bunks one above the other have been ranged along the walls of the offices, some of which have been turned into sitting rooms for the new hands. Three or four army ambulance wagons are drawn up in the yard ready for any contingency. Shortly before half past eight on Friday morning, amid a scene of great excitement, about 300 men were marched into the gasworks, to replace the strikers there. Having learned that some new men were expected to arrive at the Old Kent-road Station, the pickets concentrated their attention there, but owing to the carefully-planned arrangements of the Gas Company, backed up by the authority of the police, the Unionists were unable to prevent the new men from going into the works. Outside the railway station, which is about a quarter of a mile distant from the gas works, police were posted in strong force, mounted men also being present. Just before seven o'clock, a Great Northern special train came into the station, bringing about 150 men from Hitchin and Baldock, Hertfordshire. The men appeared to be agricultural labourers of strong physique and were evidently glad to get employment at considerably better wages than usual. The men stood huddled together at one end of the platform, which from its exposed situation was not the most comfortable place on a December morning. It was arranged that this party should wait the arrival of another composite train which had been joined up at Willesden and which brought men from Birmingham, Aylesbury, and Buckingham.

**A SUCCESSFUL RUSE.**

With regard to this second train the gas company adopted a ruse which is believed to have been entirely successful. Instead of bringing the Birmingham men, who numbered about 400, on to this station they dropped them in the vicinity of the river, and the men were then conveyed in a tug down to Greenwich. It is stated that this large contingent is a most useful one to furnish for the most part of men used to furnace work. Waiting for the arrival of this second train was a dreary business, and the men on the platform seemed to fear the cold keenly. All sorts of attempts were made by the pickets to get at them. Some of the more daring purchased railway tickets, and thus gained access to the platform. They then crossed over and commenced calling to the men from the opposite side of the permanent way, asking them to refuse to go to work, and promising at the same time that the strikers would pay their railway fare home. Eventually the pickets were removed from the station by the police. Just after eight o'clock the long expected train arrived, bringing about 180 men from Aylesbury and Buckingham. It was now fully light, so that the hope of being able to march the men into the works, without much notice, had gone. All the men were then formed into one body and marched into the streets amid groans and appeals from excited strikers. The police surrounded the new hands, and, headed by mounted constables, a move was made to the gas works, which was reached at twenty-five minutes past, without any disturbance beyond yelling and hooting. A general opinion is among ground that the company have successfully surmounted the difficulty of getting labour.

**Curses, Appeals, and Threats.**

Another scene of excitement 300 more men were conducted into the works about ten o'clock. All of these come from Brighton, Worthing, and other places in the South of England. The train arrived at the station at nine minutes to ten, and the men were loudly cheered. Closely guarded by the police, they were at once marched to the works. To describe the language indulged in by the strikers in the hope of getting the newly-engaged men to refuse to go to work is impossible. Curses, appeals, and threats were resorted to, but with little success, as only one man fell out of the ranks. Near the entrance to the works the excitement increased and an ugly rush was made to break through the ranks of the police. Mounted men, however, were at hand and kept back the crowd, who loudly groaned and threatened as the non-unionists were marched through the gateway. Reports received at the head office are to the effect that practically all vacancies have been filled up with the exception of East Greenwich, where a few more men may perhaps be required. Notwithstanding the wet weather a crowd still lingered around the works.

**Conflict with the Pickets.**

The rains ceased shortly after noon, and large

crowds began to assemble at the Canal Bridge entrance to the company's works. There was a slight disturbance shortly before one o'clock. A man who came up for employment was proceeding to enter the gateway when he was surrounded by a number of pickets who endeavoured to prevent him from going in. The police, however, came to his assistance, and eventually he got safely inside, although in the struggle one of the strikers was rolled in the gutter, and a policeman was pushed down and covered with mud. The incident, which only lasted a few seconds, caused great excitement. The strikers were very indignant with the police.

**Excitement at Vauxhall.**

The neighbourhood of Vauxhall was in a state of considerable excitement on Thursday and Friday. The police were grouped at different points in the streets, and mounted patrols rode about among the crowd which had assembled. The constables engaged for this special duty numbered about 500. When the men employed in the early morning shift came out, in conformance with their notice, the crowds had largely increased. Three bands were engaged to play the workers out, and the scene was one of activity all round. The pickets had been tripped, and were stationed for half a mile around the works on both sides of the water. On Friday morning the last 200 men left the Vauxhall works, and shortly after the mounted police escorted into the yard 117 new hands. These men had arrived at Victoria Station shortly after five a.m. from Bolton and Spalding. Representatives of the strikers were at the station, but the pickets were avoided by a stratagem on the part of the police, who got the men away by Lupus-street and Bessborough-road. When the works were reached there was some shooting from the strikers and their sympathisers, but the hostile demonstrators did not last long. The strike committee trebled their picks, so that at a very early hour the roads converging on the gas works were thronged with people. At a quarter to eight sixty or seventy of the Portsmouth men, who arrived on Thursday, reached Vauxhall Station from Clapham Junction. On the new hands emerging from the station the police closed up and escorted them to the works. Pickets who had been placed at the station made an attempt to reach the new comers, but they were firmly put back without unnecessary violence. On the contingent of Portsmouth men entering the gates they gave a hearty cheer, which was taken up by the men who had been formed in line some time previously. The Portsmouth men had been accommodated during the night in the coal sheds at Wandsworth, as no better lodgings could be procured. The party originally consisted of 130 men, but there was a defection on the part of a large proportion owing to the interposition of the strike committee and their pickets. Sheding for the accommodation of the new workers has been erected within the works, which are also pro-

visioned. At present the outlook is promising. The directors' attitude could not be more confident. They have, they say, more than a sufficiency of men, and have taken full precautions against any interference with them by the strikers. In a corresponding ratio, the men themselves are far from feeling that they are on the safe side, notwithstanding the assuring words daily uttered by their leaders. The collapse in Manchester has naturally damped the ardour with which they entered on the struggle, and they are beginning to feel that they are likely to share the fate of the Manchester stokers, of having no work to do, without having the solace of knowing that they are inflicting grievous trouble and loss upon the company.

**Withdrawal of the Pickets.**

At the three chief stations of the South Metropolitan Gas Company on Saturday morning, namely, Old Kent-road, Vauxhall, and Rotherhithe, everything was quiet. The strikers have withdrawn their picks, recognising the impossibility of preventing the company from enlisting new men, and they now pin their faith entirely to the hopes of stopping the company's supply of coal by boycotting them through the Coal Porters' Union. At Rotherhithe on Friday night some attempts at horseplay were indulged in by the rougher element, but towards eleven o'clock the men gradually dispersed. In every case the officials at the stations speak in the highest terms of the manner in which the new hands have settled down to their work. They are confident that there will be no difficulty in keeping up a proper supply. Rumours have been current to the effect that at Rotherhithe about fifty of the new men tired of their employment, and endeavoured to leave the works, but were prevented by the police. This the officials strenuously deny. They say that if any man does not like the work he is at liberty to go whenever he pleases, and they have no difficulty whatever in obtaining fresh hands. The company on Friday expended upwards of £1,000 in paying the return railway fares of men for whom no room could be found in the works, and giving them presents of money varying from 16s. to 2s., according to the distance they had travelled. Of the men who came from Birmingham and were taken down the river to Rotherhithe, only about a dozen of the strongest among them were put to work. The remainder who were not up to the required physical standard were sent back.

**Action at the North-east Ports.**

At the north-east port, notice was given on Saturday morning by three Unionist crews, and they will not carry coal for the South Metropolitan Gas Company.

**The Attitude of the Company.**

There is no room for doubt as to the position which the directors of the South Metropolitan Gas Company have adopted. There is not the slightest cause for discrediting the statement repeatedly made by the chairman and the minor officials of the company to the effect that the company has in reserve a supply of coal sufficient to last for at least a month. The company has also been able to hire as many men as are required to fill the places of those who are going out on strike. Moreover, the applications for places have been so numerous that the directors have been able to pick and choose, and they declare that among those who are chosen are a large number of men who are familiar not only with stoking work but with furnace work of a far more severe kind than that is likely to be given to them now.

**The Supply of Gas.**

Some apprehension has been caused by the fact that on Monday last the supply of gas was low. But it must be remembered that the directors gave the men a holiday on Sunday last in order that they might demonstrate at Peckham Rye. Sunday is a particularly good day for laying in a reserve of gas, and next Sunday, unless something unforeseen happens, the men in the service of the gas company will be hard at work. There is still a very large supply of gas in the gasometers both at East and West Greenwich. The gasometer on the river bank is the largest in the world, and is said to be about half full of gas at the present time.

**The Strike at Manchester.**

Having ascertained the views of the men, the mediators, Sir William Holdsworth and Mr. William Mather, on Thursday heard the other side of the question. At noon they waited upon the gas committee at the Manchester Town Hall. The interview was very prolonged, and ended in nothing more than a repetition by the committee of the promise that they would re-engage all old hands for whom vacancies now exist. The men have now ceased to demand that they should be taken back en masse.

**A REMARKABLE CASE.**

An extraordinary case of suspended animation is reported from Hampshire. The other evening the Rev. W. Wyke Baylis, rector of Upham, Hants, gave a reading at a concert in the village. He had hardly resumed his seat when he fell forward, and was carried from the room dead, it was supposed, from heart disease. On Wednesday Canon Lee, of Botley, went to Upham to bury his friend, at whose face he took a last look before preparing to go to the church. He was struck by the life-like appearance, and at once thought there was some hope that life was not extinct. He, therefore, declined to conduct the burial service, and urged that medical advice should be obtained. Two doctors were called, who examined the body, and it was reported that they found the heart beating; but a later telegram from the same correspondent says a communication has been received that the doctors having examined Mr. Baylis's body, pronounced life extinct.

**THE COALIES' STRIKE.****Charge of Intimidation.**

John Trueman, of Hack-road, and William Clark, of Lansdowne-road, Custom House, appeared at West Ham Police Court on a summons respecting the death of Abram Salter, of Foden-street, Canning Town.—Mr. Atkinson, who appeared to prosecute, said that on August 24th the men employed at Cory's, in the Victoria Dock-road, came out on strike, and the same evening there was a meeting at Hack-road, and a coalies' union was formed. Ed. Trueman was elected secretary and Clark president. Next day there was a larger meeting of coalies, and this was followed by the Beckton men coming out on strike. Subsequently a large meeting was held at the Stratford Town Hall, and the newly-formed union amalgamated with another. Plaintiff, who had kept the Firemen's Arms at Canning Town, offended the coalies, with whom he had worked, by injudiciously remarking that he could sell the whole lot; but at a special meeting called to consider the matter he apologised. His house was, however, boycotted, and he was compelled to leave it on November 23rd. On the 27th he wanted to go back to work, and he made arrangements, but meanwhile the defendant called on Mr. Pittcock, the foreman, and told him that Salter was on the tools and the other men would throw down their tools and leave off. Salter was also told that he would not be allowed to go back to work, and on the 29th, when he presented himself at Cory's, he was told that he could not be taken on. The evidence, Mr. Atkinson said, would be ample to constitute a prima facie case to go for trial.—Complainant said that on August 24th he was in the employ of Messrs. Cory and Co., coal merchants, in the Victoria Dock, and on that day they came out on strike. On Tuesday, November 26th, witness went to see Mr. Shepard, the chief superintendent of Cory's men, having a desire to

**Go Back to Work.**

On the 28th he saw the defendants outside the dock gates in the morning. Clark said that on account of the way he (witness) had acted towards the society, he would not be allowed to go back to work again. Trueman was there at the time, and on the 2nd of December witness saw Trueman.—Mr. Baggally: That has nothing to do with this charge. These men are charged with intimidating this man on the 28th November. Keep to that.—Mr. Atkinson: Did you afterwards see Mr. Shepard, and did he say you could not go back to work?—Mr. Baggally: That has nothing to do with it. —Mr. Radford rose to cross-examine, but at the suggestion of Mr. Baggally he postponed his questions.—William Pittcock, foreman to Cory and Company, was called, and was asked as to what the defendants said to him on November 23rd, but when he said that Mr. Salter was not there at the time. Mr. Baggally said that that could not be evidence, and he pointed out that a man might be charged with intimidating a master as well as the men. But in this case the defendants were only charged with intimidating the men. What was said to Pittcock might be a subject of a different character, but whether it was or not did not affect this case. So far he saw very little in the charge on the evidence of the complainant, certainly not sufficient to send the case for trial. He should not allow the question to be put to the witness as to what took place between the defendants and Pittcock in the absence of complainant.—Mr. Atkinson: If you rule so, I shall have to proceed in another way.—Mr. Baggally: Very well, proceed the other way.—Mr. Atkinson: I mean, of course, with another charge.—Mr. Baggally: You want to withdraw? (Mr. Atkinson assented.) Very well, the case is dismissed.—Mr. Radford asked for costs, but his worship remarked that as the case had in the first instance been taken out of his jurisdiction he could not grant it. Had the case been a summary one he could have done it.—Mr. Radford then intimated that after all that had been said he would add that after all that had been said he would add that all the defendants had done had been quite lawfully.

**ALLEGED WHOLESALE FRAUDS.**

A middle-aged woman, named Elizabeth Buchanan, alias McDougal, was re-examined on Thursday, at the Wandsworth Police Court, on the charge of obtaining money by fraud. Mrs. Sims, from the offices of the solicitor to the Treasury, prosecuted, and said there were numerous charges against her.—The Rev. George Garraway, attached to the Scotch Church in Belgravia, deposed that early in September the prisoner called at his lodgings in Margaret-terrace, Chelsea, and represented that she had come up from Glasgow to open a millinery business. Her money was being transmitted to a firm in the City, Messrs. Anderson Brothers, and, in consequence of the delay, she would be unable to obtain it until the Monday, and she therefore asked for a loan of 10s. in the interim. He lent her 10s., believing her statement to be true and her promise to return the money in a few days. She called again, and said her money was further delayed in transmission, and asked for another loan, but, having heard something about her, he declined to lend her any more money.—Mr. Harry Eekell, a surgeon dentist, of Ludgate Hill, said the prisoner called at his establishment and ordered a set of teeth for £20. She stated that she had come up from Glasgow, and was residing at the Euston Hotel. He asked her to pay a deposit. She looked in her bag and said she could not afford to pay her cab fare to the Euston Hotel. He gave her 1s. 6d. She promised to call the next day, but he did not see her again. He understood that she also went to his West-end establishment and asked for money there.—George Fagg said his wife carried on the business of a manufactory in Edgware-road in the name of Madame Elliott. The prisoner called and desired to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the business. She stated that she was living at St. Pancras Hotel, and asked for the loan of a few shillings, as she had come away without any money, and wished to make a call. He lent her 1s., a sum which had never been repaid.—Evidence was also given to prove that the prisoner was not staying at the hotels, but at a coffee-shop in Battersea Park-road, where several persons belonging to her were found, bearing the names of well-known charitable people, including Mr. J. S. Maxwell and Lady Maxwell.—Mr. Sims said he did not propose to offer any other evidence on that occasion. He wished to state, however, that the prisoner ordered from Messrs. J. Brinsmead and Son a piano for £75, notwithstanding that she was living at a coffee-shop.—The prisoner, who made no reply to the charge, was committed for trial.

**THEFT OF THE BRAZILIAN IMPERIAL JEWELS.**

A Lisbon correspondent states that the Empress of Brazil has received a telegram from Rio de Janeiro informing her that all her jewels have been stolen. They comprised perhaps the finest Brazilian diamonds in the world, and had never been out of the possession of the Imperial family. The police are investigating the affair. This is a heavy blow to the august couple, the caskets of the empress being one of the resources on which they counted for immediate expenses, and, should a congress not continue to the emperor his income, for an eventual livelihood. The Comte d'Eu is reported to have accumulated considerable sums during his residence in Brazil, but it is well-known that the ex-emperor spent nearly the whole of his private fortune. The Imperial family is in good health, and Dom Pedro and the empress go about in their old manner, and do not trouble the Court. Dom Pedro has decided not to be beholden to any of his friends for a home at Cannes, and has asked the landlord of the Hotel de Beau Séjour to keep rooms for him and the empress. The prince and his children will go to Cannes, but stop with some Bourbon relations there. They leave shortly for Paris, where the emperor and empress will join them, and accompany them on a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

**THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT CHEETHAM.****Inquest, and Verdict.**

An inquest was held at Manchester on Thursday respecting the death of Abram Salter, who was killed at a railway accident at Cheetham Hill Junction on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway late on Saturday night. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. They did not think culpable blame attached to any one. One juror desired to add that the railway company should not use movable lights, which could be easily obscured.

**THE CORPORATION AND THE VOLUNTEERS.****Speech by the Duke of Cambridge.**

A meeting of the Court of Common Council was held at the Guildhall on Thursday, the Lord Mayor presiding. A petition was presented from the London Rifle Brigade requesting that the corporation would out of the land at their disposal upon the Victoria Embankment, be pleased to make to the London Rifle Volunteer Brigade a grant of such a site, in such a position, under such restrictions, and at such favourable rent as the corporation might deem expedient for a drill hall and proper headquarters. A petition was also presented on behalf of the 3rd City of London Volunteers praying for the allocation of such hall as would be required for the performance of their duties on such terms as might be within their means and resources. The Duke of Cambridge, Lord Napier of Magdala, Lord Pelham Clinton, and Colouel Laurie attended in support of the petition. In reply to Mr. Judd, Lord Pelham Clinton said the London Rifle Brigade would be able to pay £200 a year for rent and taxes, though if other Volunteer corps used the drill hall they would be expected to contribute. The London Rifle Brigade proposed to spend from £10,000 to £12,000 on the erection of the building.—Mr. Bedford moved that the petition of the London Rifle Brigade be referred to the City Lands Committee, and said it was a very important matter.—Mr. Alliston seconded the motion.—Mr. Alderman Cowan moved that the petition of the 3rd City of London Volunteers be again referred to the City Lands Committee.—The Duke of Cambridge, who was received with cheers, said he had come there for the purpose of supporting the petition. He was perfectly well aware that in that room they had many duties to perform, and that they required great consideration. He hoped he might be allowed to say that the request which was made in the petition was well worthy of serious and sincere consideration. He knew he had no right to interfere in these matters; but he most sincerely hoped that the court would allow it to go before a committee to be carefully looked into.—Lord Major of Magdala also briefly spoke in support of the petition of the 3rd City of London Volunteers; and the petitions were then referred to the City Lands Committee.

**MIDNIGHT RUFFIANISM IN OXFORD-STREET.**

At the Marlborough-street Police Court, George Leonard, 19, a tailor, of Broad-street, Golden-square, was charged with assaulting Herbert Easton, a gentleman, of Shrewsbury-road, Baywater.—Mr. Easton, whose face had several abrasions, said that at half-past twelve o'clock on the morning of the 8th inst. he was going home along Oxford-street, when, as he passed a number of young men standing opposite Hardware-place, he was struck from behind. Turning back, he asked who had touched him, but as all the youths denied knowing anything about it, he continued his way homeward. Before he had gone a couple of paces he received a kick on the back and four blows on the face. Immediately afterwards he was seized by a number of the young men and struck and kicked repeatedly, his umbrella being held by one of them so that he could not use it. He made what resistance he could, and managed to strike the prisoner, who was in front of him, on the face, sending him backwards, so that witness was able to break away and get across the road. He was followed, tripped up, and kicked and thumped on the head and shoulders while on the ground. After some time he succeeded in getting to his feet again, and seeing a cab coming towards him ran to it and jumped inside. The mob followed, and the prisoner got in after him, and the struggle continued in the cab. He had been calling "Police" since the affair commenced, and soon after he got into the cab, a constable arrived.—Albert Richards, of Virgil-place, Marylebone, the cab-driver, deposed that when